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Speaker: The Honourable George Qulaut, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Amittuq)

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(Aivilik)

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(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

Simeon Mikkungwak
(Baker Lake)

Hon. Tom Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

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Joe Savikataaq
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(South Baffin)

Hon. Keith Peterson
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Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk
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Government House Leader; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. George Kuksuk
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Hon. Paul Quassa
(Aggu)

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Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, May 23, 2014**

Members Present:

Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell,
Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr.
David Joanasie, Hon. George Kuksuk,
Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr. Simeon
Mikkungwak, Hon. Paul Okalik, Hon.
Keith Peterson, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon.
George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr.
Alex Sammurtok, Hon. Tom
Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr.
Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna,
Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 8:59*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut)
(interpretation): Good morning. Ms.
Ugyuk, can you say the opening prayer,
please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning,
Nunavummiut. Welcome. Before we
proceed, I would like to advise everyone
that the member from Gjoa Haven, Tony
Akoak, will be absent from the House
due to illness.

Item 2. Ministers' Statements.
(interpretation ends) Hon. Member, Mr.
Kuksuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 006 – 4(2):
Arviat Community Ecotourism –
Global Award for Arviat**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation):
Good morning, Nunavummiut and my
colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to

congratulate the Arviat Community
Ecotourism Initiative and its coordinator
on receiving a prestigious international
award.

In April, Arviat Community Ecotourism
Coordinator Olivia Tagalik travelled to
China to accept the Community Award
from the World Travel and Tourism
Council. (interpretation ends) This
award recognizes commitment to
sustainable tourism leadership in local
community development, empowerment,
and cultural heritage.

The Arviat Community Ecotourism
project has been a priority for the
community for some time, and with
funding from Nunavut Tunngavik and
the Department of Economic
Development and Transportation, this
project has now gained international
recognition.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of
Nunavut recognizes the potential of
tourism for our territory's economy.
*Tunngasaiji: A Tourism Strategy for
Nunavummiut* commits us to working to
develop key attractions in our
communities, and the Arviat Community
Ecotourism is a model of how this can
work.

This is a much needed economic
development and employment
opportunity in the Kivalliq region. It
attracts visitors and it is also a way for
the community to promote its cultural
uniqueness.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all of my
colleagues to join me in congratulating
the community of Arviat and Olivia
Tagalik on their success. Thank you, Mr.
Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 007 – 4(2):
Nunavut Coastal Aquatic
Monitoring Program Successfully
Launched in Igloolik and Coral
Harbour**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I make my Minister's Statement, I say "good morning" to the residents of Pangnirtung. I say "good morning" to all Nunavummiut and elders watching the proceedings, and I hope you have a good day.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, aquatic monitoring and access to fisheries development opportunities in Nunavut are being improved thanks to the Department of Environment's new Nunavut Community Aquatic Monitoring Program.

N-CAMP, for short, is a training and data collection program that gives Nunavummiut first-hand experience in fisheries research and development. The program has been developed in partnership with communities across Nunavut and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with funding from the Nunavut General Monitoring Program.

Three communities are piloting the program. The first camp took place in Igloolik in March, followed by Coral Harbour in April. Both were great successes, with a total of 18 graduates working together to share knowledge

and plan for further fisheries development. During the Igloolik camp, participants caught and sampled 200 fish, some of which were donated to a community feast where seven graduates were presented with their training completion certificates. The final pilot camp will be held in Kugluktuk in September, and other communities are already enquiring about running an N-CAMP of their own.

Mr. Speaker, this unique training opportunity will increase capacity in the fisheries industry and ensure the success of community-based fisheries, whether for personal or commercial use. My department hopes to deliver the N-CAMP throughout the territory in support of other exploratory fisheries and community research. The pilot camps are being filmed in order to develop further educational resources for future programming. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Monica Ell.

**Minister's Statement 008 – 4(2):
Nunavummiut Join the Ranks of
Tobacco Quitters**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people who are watching the proceedings. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Tobacco Has No Place Here "Time to Quit Contest" ended with more than 600 Nunavummiut from across the territory committing to being tobacco-free for the month of March. The good news is that

many of the people who signed up for the contest remain tobacco-free.

Mr. Speaker, the \$50,000 in contest prizes included four major prizes of Canadian North flights. The prize winners were chosen in a random draw, with winners chosen from each of the three regions in Nunavut. Each contestant had a quit buddy to support them in their goal to stay tobacco-free. The quit buddies were eligible to win iPad minis.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the four first-place winners. They are Joanna Mikijuk and her quit buddy, Joe Sageaktook, and Kristine Nakashuk and her quit buddy, James Akavak, all of the Baffin region; Nancy Aqqaq, Kitikmeot region, and her quit buddy, Becky Ogruk; and Howmik Muckpah, Kivalliq region, and quit buddy Kristy Kablutsiak.

Mr. Speaker, a complete list of quit contest winners is available on the Department of Health website and the Tobacco Has No Place Here Facebook page.

Mr. Speaker, it is gratifying to see that our efforts to promote awareness of the dangers associated with tobacco use is being recognized by Nunavummiut. People are taking the necessary steps to be tobacco-free.

We made a major investment three years ago in the Tobacco Has No Place Here campaign and we are seeing results. People are quitting tobacco. They are an inspiration to others to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

People who want more information on quitting and supports can call the Nunavut Quitline, 1-866-386-7848, or go to nuquits.gov.nu.ca. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Member, Mr. Okalik, Minister of Justice.

**Minister's Statement 009 – 4(2):
Inuksuk High School Mock Trial**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, everyone. I apologize for my voice this morning. I think I celebrated a little too much last night.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the annual Inuksuk High School Canadian Bar Association Mock Trial is being held at the Nunavut Court of Justice.

The mock trial involves 29 Inuksuk High School students playing the part of witnesses, court workers, and lawyers to argue a case before a visiting judge. This learning experience involves coaching by volunteer lawyers from the Legal Services Board, Public Prosecution Services, and the Nunavut Department of Justice.

In previous years, judges of the Supreme Court of Canada have presided over the trial. This year, the Hon. Justice Stratus from the Federal Court of Appeal came to Iqaluit to hear the case and speak to the students.

Mr. Speaker, it takes months of preparation and dedication by the

students, teachers, and volunteers to put on this trial every year. I congratulate everyone involved in this event for their hard work and dedication. As well, I encourage young Nunavummiut to pursue a career in justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I don't have any more names on my list for Item 2. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for (interpretation ends) Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 022 – 4(2): The Need for Improved Dental Services in Rankin Inlet

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, fellow residents of Rankin Inlet. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the need for improved dental services in the community of Rankin Inlet.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I recognize that dentists and denturists travel to the community on a regular basis. However, they only stay for a short period of time. If problems arise from the services they have provided, the client has to wait until the next visit or, worse, until they can get another appointment to get the problem fixed.

One of my constituents received new dentures which broke only a couple of days later. Unfortunately she had to wait a very long time before being able to get the problem addressed.

Mr. Speaker, we have all heard of planeloads of children being flown out of the territory to receive dental services. If we had local, permanent dentists on staff, this huge cost could be avoided.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Rankin Inlet is a transportation hub for many Kivalliq communities. It would make sense to have a permanent dentist established there to provide services to the region. At this time, if there is a dental emergency, clients are sent out of the territory at great cost.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the government to consider establishing a full-time dentist in the community of Rankin Inlet.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Member's Statement 023 – 4(2): Update on Polar Bear Attack Victims

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to say good morning to Nunavummiut and my colleagues, the ministers and regular members, and the people of the High Arctic.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an unfortunate incident that happened yesterday. There were a couple of people who were mauled by a polar bear. They came in around ten o'clock last night. They don't look very pretty, but they're all right. None of their bones are broken,

but their faces are scratched up and bitten.

The polar bear came into their tent when they were sleeping. My grandchild had been bitten and pulled out of the tent. The polar bear had bitten his head, pulled him out, and then the other individual started making noise and got his rifle. It's unfortunate that he couldn't get it right away. Due to that, they both have huge scratches on their backs and one of them has a sprained arm.

They don't look too good, but I'm relieved that they're okay physically. They are now at the Qikiqtani Regional Hospital and doing well. They're very fortunate, and I'm very happy for them. I am grateful to the people who provided assistance.

There is an annual fishing derby in our community and this year I took part in that joyous occasion. There were many tents that were camped at the lake. Being out on the land and being with your family in the spring helps you out physically and mentally.

I'm very pleased to congratulate two women who are now getting older. Sarah Issigaitok was diagnosed with lung cancer last year. They didn't have much hope for her at the time she was diagnosed. With treatment, she is now getting better.

Sarah even participated in that fishing derby with her grandchild, for which I'm very pleased to announce. She caught the largest fish, but then Ooloota Olayuk ended up getting the largest fish not too long afterwards. I am very pleased to make those joyous announcements, Mr. Speaker. Thank you. I am proud of them.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for (interpretation ends) Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Member's Statement 024 – 4(2): Cod Fishing Derby in Arviat

Mr. Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to the people of Arviat. Today being Friday, I don't think that there are many people listening to us in Arviat as they are all out cod fishing right now.

I wish them good fishing as the weather is nice and the fishing spots are nearby. I can just visualize them having tea and snacks while jigging for the biggest cod. I wish them a pleasant time during this cod fishing derby. I wish I could be out there with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Angnakak.

Member's Statement 025 – 4(2): Community Meeting for the Crime Prevention Strategy

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Iqaluit and Nunavut. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about Iqaluit's recent community meeting for the development of the government's Crime Prevention Strategy. The meeting took place on May 1 at the Parish Hall in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to express my appreciation to the Department of Justice for organizing the meeting, which provided a public forum for residents to discuss crime prevention in the city.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the local elders, the RCMP, and the many residents who participated. I am pleased to report that the meeting was well attended by a diverse group of residents who had much to contribute on the subject of crime prevention.

Mr. Speaker, during the meeting, residents expressed concern about the high crime rates in Iqaluit, and recognized the need to identify underlying causes. It was agreed that there is a lack of support in Iqaluit for people who suffer from trauma, addictions, and poverty.

Participants also agreed that without proper resources and support to cope with these issues, people may instead turn to criminal activity. The meeting was very productive, and I look forward seeing the next step in the development of the Crime Prevention Strategy.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that the government is engaging communities in the development of the strategy, as it is critical that constituents have the opportunity to directly contribute to policy in this area.

On Monday, I will have detailed questions on this subject for the Minister of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasié.

**Member's Statement 026 – 4(2):
Opening of Cape Dorset Elders'
Centre**

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to announce that the elders' facility was opened in Cape Dorset last month. This facility was renovated on the outside and inside so that it could be used by the elders of Cape Dorset.

This year, the elders will be celebrating a 20-year anniversary in August and the elders are going to be congregating there from all over Nunavut and other regions. I congratulate the elders for opening their facility. I did participate in the grand opening and we had a community feast at the official opening.

The chairperson of Illuajummiut, the elders' society, noted that the building originally was a school and asked about who went to school there. A lot of individuals put up their hands.

I'm pleased to see that this facility will once again be utilized by the people of Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 027 – 4(2):
Baker Lake Dancing Competition**

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

This spring, after the conclusion of the standing committee meetings, I returned to Baker Lake to a very happy occasion.

In April, Baker Lake was host to people from Arviat, Taloyoak, Rankin Inlet, and Gjoa Haven. They came together to join in a square dance showdown. Elders, youth, and children participated during the drum dancing workshop that took place as well. It is something that we will remember.

The Baker Lake accordion players organized that occasion. I would like to thank them all because I was the emcee for that square dance showdown.

During the square dance, in first place was the Inuksuk square dance group from Baker Lake. In second place was the Amauligaq square dance group from Gjoa Haven. In third place was Rankin Inlet's square dance group.

In the youth and children categories, third place was Rankin Inlet's Ilannaariit square dance group. In second place was Baker Lake's Piqannaariit square dancer group. In first place was Gjoa Haven's Qavaanngittuq square dance group.

No matter where the square dancers came from, it was a joyous occasion and we had very good entertainment. I wish them well in their line of entertaining. When people congregate, it is always a joyous occasion.

To the people of Baker Lake and Nunavut, have a very good day. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

Member's Statement 028 – 4(2): New Catholic Church in Igloolik

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people in my riding, in Nunavut, as well as my colleagues. Every community has churches or religious organizations that have been around for a long time.

Around the 1940s, I believe, the first church was built in Igloolik. The people of Igloolik and the people of Nunavut probably remember that there was a unique stone church built in Igloolik during the 1960s era.

In early spring, we opened a new Catholic church and it's now being utilized in our community. I believe all Nunavut communities have churches, but I would like to commend my community for building that church and for utilizing it. The first wedding in the new church has taken place already, and there are many occasions taking place in the religious sector.

We had invited different delegates. Donat Milortok is here, and I believe he went to Igloolik for the official opening of the new church. I would like to congratulate the church because it's a benefit to our community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

**Member's Statement 029 – 4(2):
Megan Dialla Competes at North
American Indigenous Games**

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's with great pride that I stand today and mention one of our Iqaluit athletes also participating in the North American Indigenous Games, as my colleague, Mr. Enook, was talking about the other day. She is originally from Pangnirtung. Megan Dialla has been living in Iqaluit for a number of years now. She just turned 13 and competed in the AWG in Alaska when she was 12.

Mr. Speaker, she plays badminton. She has not won any medals yet, but she has been invited to register at the NAIG in Regina, Saskatchewan and is training very hard for that and eagerly looking forward to competing again. I just wanted to mention that Megan is the daughter of one of our interpreters, Andrew, here in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Mapsalak.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to be able to recognize in the House a very well-known Nunavut person. He was involved with the Nunavut land claims negotiations right from the beginning. He has been in every position; mayor, board member, committee member. He

has been involved in numerous organizations. I would like to recognize Mr. Donat Milortok and I would like the House to give him a warm welcome.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome, Donat Milortok. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member Mr. Hickes.

Item 6: Oral Questions

**Question 021 – 4(2): Homeowner Fuel
Rebate Program**

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Finance.

As the minister will recall, the first question that I asked in the House concerned the possibility of reintroducing the government's homeowner fuel rebate program. I was very pleased when the minister took action and reintroduced this program.

Can the minister update the House today on how many residents of Nunavut have received assistance under this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Finance, Hon. Member, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, colleagues. Mr. Speaker, to date, almost 1,100 Nunavummiut have received assistance from this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Mr. Speaker, in 2011, the Minister of Finance informed the Legislative Assembly that approximately 1,300 Nunavut homeowners took advantage of the government's fuel rebate program. The minister also indicated that the government spent between \$600,000 and \$700,000 on the program.

Can the minister indicate if the government anticipates spending a higher or lower amount on the renewed fuel rebate program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for that question. Mr. Speaker, I know of at least one person who is planning to apply, hopefully before September 30. That's the deadline. I anticipate a higher amount, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also anticipate that the homeowner fuel rebate program will help to provide the government with a current snapshot of the number and location of private homeowners in the territory, which will help the Nunavut Housing Corporation with its work to review programs for homeowners. Is the Department of Finance sharing information from the homeowner fuel rebate program with the

Nunavut Housing Corporation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we did the research on the program, we used statistics from Stats Canada. We estimated that there were as many as 2,000 private homeowners in Nunavut. The Nunavut Housing Corporation, of course, has more detailed information than us. If they request information, I'm sure we can share it with the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Question 022 – 4(2): Status of Manitoba-Kivalliq Power Grid Extension

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Energy. Hopefully the power won't go out today before the minister answers the question.

>>*Laughter*

Yesterday, I raised the issue of the proposed winter road between Manitoba and the Kivalliq. Today, I want to focus on the status of efforts to connect the Kivalliq to Manitoba's electric grid.

One of the scheduled items on the agenda of last month's meeting of the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table was the power grid

extension between Manitoba and the Kivalliq.

Can the minister update the House today on the discussions that occurred last month in Churchill? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Energy, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for the question. As I stated yesterday, in April, we had a meeting with government representatives and discussed two main topics in Churchill in regard to the winter road and also your question about the power grid extension between Manitoba and the Kivalliq. I was not the only government representative there. There were a few of us. It was good to have those people there, with many interesting discussions.

As I stated, the idea of getting power from Manitoba to Nunavut is not new. It has been a hot topic of discussion recently and different parties are very interested in working together, along with the delegates from Manitoba. I can say now that we are working to try to connect the power grid from Manitoba to the Kivalliq. The work is happening.

Discussions on electricity between Manitoba and Nunavut are proceeding. The working committee that has been set up will have representatives from our government, the Manitoba government, and Manitoba Hydro.

I can't respond fully yet to the member's question. However, in September, we're

planning to have another meeting in Baker Lake on the matter. At that time, there will be some reports on studies that are being done now. After that meeting takes places, I'll be able to give you a more detailed response. Thank you.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As my friend and colleague from Iqaluit-Niaqunnguut noted yesterday, the Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources has been travelling across the north as part of its study on renewable and non-renewable energy development in the three territories.

Can the Minister of Energy indicate if he will be making a submission to the Senate committee on the issue of connecting the Kivalliq to Manitoba's power grid? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Energy, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated previously, the energy matter from Manitoba to Nunavut has been discussed a lot and there is some real work being done on it right now. A working group committee was appointed and a QEC finance controller was appointed to the working group. Different departments are represented, such as Economic Development and Transportation.

Therefore in regard to your question, the matter is being worked on. However, we expect to be shown different reports on,

for instance, what would be the cheapest way of doing it and the water use necessary. They will be looking at different forms of energy at that meeting as well. After that meeting takes place in the fall in Baker Lake, we will have more information to report on. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In 2002, the governments of Nunavut and Manitoba signed a formal memorandum of intent on a northern energy strategy. In 2010, both governments signed a memorandum of understanding which included a commitment to “sharing best practices and technology” in the area of renewable energy. Would the minister commit to tabling in the Legislative Assembly a report on the status of implementing these agreements? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Energy, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some of the previous government agreements called MOUs are quite applicable today. This was also discussed in the agreement to work closely together. They have to consider different things and try to strike a new MOU. That will be dealt with.

However, until such time as the details are set out, I will not be able to get into any of them right now. Only after we can get a new MOU struck on sharing energy and plans on collaborations will I

be able to fully respond to your question. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 023 – 4(2): Nursing Positions in Sanikiluaq

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, well over a year ago, the government of the day announced an increase in the number of full-time nursing staff for several Nunavut communities, including Sanikiluaq.

Can the minister indicate how many full-time nursing staff positions currently exist at the Sanikiluaq Health Centre and how many of those positions are filled at this time? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. member for that question. The current numbers that I have for Sanikiluaq are three full-time nurses and one psychiatric nurse. Currently, the three nurses are filled in Sanikiluaq and I believe the psychiatric nurse position might be vacant at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When it was announced that there was

an additional PY going to Sanikiluaq for nursing, at the time, there were already three nurses in the community. I was under the understanding that a fourth nurse would be going to the community. From the minister's reply to my question, she says that there are only three staffing positions in Sanikiluaq for nurses. Can the minister confirm that there are actually only three nursing positions in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The information that I have at this present time is that I have three full-time nurses in Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had the unfortunate opportunity to observe the nurses at the Sanikiluaq Health Centre working long hours for extended periods of time and part of this situation appears to be due to a lack of staff. Can the minister describe what steps are being taken to ensure that adequate staff are in the community of Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As an example, a nurse may want to go on vacation or if there are requirements for extended periods for nursing, we do try to assist with a casual

staffing nurse. If that's not possible, then we look to agency nursing.

As I have stated in the past in this House, we do have a shortage of nurses in Nunavut and that is still continuing. We do compete with other jurisdictions in Canada as well as the United States and we also compete internationally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Question 024 – 4(2): Issuing of Photo Identification

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I questioned the minister yesterday. My questions today are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

As I noted yesterday in my Member's Statement, many residents of Baker Lake have expressed frustration with the length of time that it can take to receive new general identification cards and driver's licences.

Earlier this year, the Legislative Assembly approved \$2.8 million in capital funding for the Department of EDT to replace its motor vehicle information system. This project is intended to modernize the department's system and improve service to Nunavummiut.

Can the minister update the House today on the status of the replacement of its motor vehicle information system? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the member is correct. The motor vehicle information system was delayed for a while, which is my responsibility. Along with Community and Government Services, we're trying to rectify the problems that we are experiencing. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The Municipal Council of Baker Lake recently passed a resolution concerning the length of time that it takes for residents to renew their driver's licences. The council noted that in some cases, it can take up to six months for the licence to be issued.

Can the minister indicate what the department's target time is for processing applications for driver's licences? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier in response, we're not the only department that is dealing with this system right now. Community and Government Services is working along

with us on this issue to upgrade the 1970s system that we are still using. There was a delay in modernizing the system and we're in the process of catching up today with respect to issuing driver's licences. We're getting rid of the old system and using the new system.

At this time, I can't really give any information. I will provide you the information as we do more work on the modernization of issuing driver's licences so that Nunavummiut don't have to wait that long for their driver's licences. We work along with CG&S with respect to this. As we do the modernization, I will be able to give you more information. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. As I noted yesterday in my questions to the Premier, it is hoped that the position of Baker Lake's government liaison officer will be filled in the near future.

Will the minister commit to having his regional staff work with Baker Lake's new GLO to identify a way of improving motor vehicles services to the community? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree with the

member that the GLOs in the communities work along with our department and the other department with respect to issuing driver's licences and general identification cards in the communities.

I would just like to let the member know that the GLO for Baker Lake will be given some information and some training with respect to issuing licences and general IDs. The individual may have to take some additional training either in Rankin Inlet or Gjoa Haven so that he or she will be able to do the job properly. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

Question 025 – 4(2): Income Assistance Rates

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good morning” to my wife. Good morning to Nunavummiut and the people of Pond Inlet. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question to the Minister of Family Services with respect to the response that she provided.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that it's very expensive in the north to try and live or make a living. Let me ask this question first. Is the social assistance that is provided to members of the public the same assistance that is provided to all individuals across Canada? That is my first question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for his question with respect to social assistance. I'm not exactly sure whether it's the same all around for providing food for social assistance recipients in other jurisdictions in Canada. The Minister of Finance also deals with social assistance funding. I'm not sure how much assistance is provided to Canadians in other jurisdictions. I hope that helpful. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to ask this question. In your previous answer, you have stated that while the cost of living is very high in Nunavut, you had no discussions with the federal government. Why has your department not had any discussions with your federal counterpart about increasing the funding to lower the cost of living? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for his question in relation to the cost of food and the high cost of living. This is very understandable. There has been no dent to the cost of living ever since Nunavut was created. We have a basic welfare system. In the coming years, we will be taking a look at the regulations pertaining to the cost of living. I presume I am making sense. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In previous replies, it is stated, and when I had queried her, she had stated that it will be reviewed. In the written answers, it states that in the coming years, these will be looked at. My question is: what do you mean by the coming years? Is it going to be a century from now or a decade from now? What future date or years are you looking at? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Tununiq for his question in trying to nail down when we would be taking a look at this. I understand that the review of the rates will be completed in 2015. It would not be just for the food costs, but also for fuel, education, assistance for daycare, and all kinds of other things that are geared towards the alleviation of the cost of living to the residents of Nunavut. It is this way that I can answer him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

Question 026 – 4(2): The Need for Improved Dental Services in Rankin Inlet

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct

my question to the (interpretation ends) Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my Member's Statement, there is a need for full-time dental services in the community of Rankin Inlet and the Kivalliq region.

(interpretation) Can the minister describe what consideration has been given to establishing a full-time dental office in the community of Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for the question in regard to dental care in the Kivalliq region. Way back in July to October 2013, the dental office was closed temporarily for five months because there was flooding in the building. The problem has been rectified, but regardless of that, the dentist was able to see people with dental appointments at the school. Now that dental office is back in operation and the dentist is now back in his or her office. They don't just deal with fillings, but they also do orthodontic work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that dental teams visit Nunavut communities on a regular basis. However, they only stay for a short period of time and they are gone. Clients have to wait to have dental issues

addressed. Can the minister explain how the number of dental visits and length of each visit are determined by her department? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The full-time dentist in Rankin Inlet would be based there. The Government of Canada is responsible for the provision of dental care to Inuit, under Health Canada.

We have an agreement with the Canadian government that they provide dental services 200 days a year. With respect to this agreement with Health Canada, we always have ongoing discussions as to whether there could be an increase in the number of days. In the Kitikmeot region, they had additional hours added. We do address these issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for her response. I will ask this question, although she had just mentioned that Rankin Inlet has a full-time dentist. Perhaps the person is occasionally taking time off and is not aware. (interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to establishing a full-time dentist position in the community of Rankin Inlet? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This has already been dealt with. This summer, there will be a full-time dentist residing in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

Question 027 – 4(2): Status of Home Care Support in South Baffin

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. My question today is for the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will agree with me that for individuals with a long-term illness or disability, who need care and support, being able to stay at home and near family, is very important to their continued well-being. Home care workers play an important role in this regard.

However, it has come to my attention that home care services in the community of Kimmirut are being steadily decreased. Can the minister confirm that home care services in the community of Kimmirut have been decreased and explain why this is happening? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. According to the documents that I have been given in regard to Kimmirut, there are two full-time nurses working there and there has been no change in that status. We are definitely not trying to decrease the number of nurses in the community of Kimmirut. We have discussions with our fellow ministers and counterparts as to the possibility of increasing them, as a matter of fact, but it's only the frequency of visiting nurses from the south that has decreased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister provide further information on how the number of home care workers for Nunavut communities is determined? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The total positions as of March 31, 2014 for nurses in Nunavut, we have an occupancy rate of 69.17 percent. Nurses totalled by region, as an example, for person years, in Iqaluit, 90; Baffin, 59; Kitikmeot, 61; and the Kivalliq, 69; for a total Nunavut full-time person year nurses of 279. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister commit to increasing the number of

home care workers in Kimmirut so that those who receive care at home can get the attention and support that they need in order to get through their daily lives? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. My staff is watching this session and the questions that are being posed to me. I will ask them for an update on the status of nursing in Kimmirut in relation to home care, including visiting nurses and full-time nurses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Question 028 – 4(2): Nanisivik Road Maintenance

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have another question relating to Nanisivik that I asked previously. I had a query from one of my constituents who had a question relating to Nanisivik.

The contract relating to Nanisivik is usually for four years. There has been no indication of whether there will be an extension. Will there be no maintenance work done this summer? Is this the end of the funding cycle for that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my colleagues. I would like the member to clarify which road or port he's asking about. I heard two questions. I have possibly misunderstood and I apologize. I would like him to rephrase his question. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Shooyook, can you clarify your question, please.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is in regard to the Nanisivik highway, which has to be maintained on a yearly basis. What I would like to ask about is whether the Nanisivik highway is going to be maintained or revamped from Arctic Bay to Nanisivik. I hope you understand now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, the government will maintain the Nanisivik highway, and we are going to keep snow clearing and maintaining the road in the summer. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The highway from Arctic Bay to Nanisivik is quite long and there are some steep hills and mountains, which makes it very dangerous when it's not properly maintained. From what I have heard, a contractor maintains the road. When I go back to my community,

I'll make sure that the contract is adhered to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That was just a comment. We will go back to Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Question 029 – 4(2): Establishing a Hospital Board

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, as we are all well aware, we have one acute care hospital in Nunavut. Since the dissolution of the Baffin Regional Health Board, the hospital has been managed by the Department of Health, formerly the Department of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, across Canada and in many developed nations, it is well recognized that the most accepted and efficient mechanism for governing and operating hospitals is through a board of management.

Can the minister indicate what consideration, if any, has been given to establishing a board of management for the Qikiqtani General Hospital? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for posing that question. I've had meetings with the hamlets and various organizations and they have

asked about establishing a board of management for the Qikiqtani General Hospital. Our department has not considered this idea.

However, we did create the Patient Relations Office where patients who have complaints or concerns can call. This office was created recently and we're looking at how well the office is going, but I have heard that it is operating very well. That's where we're at currently. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) A board of management can respond to situations and make management decisions much more quickly than any government bureaucratic process can. Currently, the running of Nunavut's only hospital is significantly impeded by the bureaucratic processes of our government.

Would the minister agree that the operation of the Qikiqtani General Hospital would be much more efficient if its management were at arm's length from the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't answer that question at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, our government's new mandate, *Sivumut Abluqta*, commits to "review government programs to determine what is working well and what needs improvement." This is something that we all agreed on. As part of that review, will the minister commit to reviewing the governance of the Qikiqtani General Hospital? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will ask my staff to look into that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

Question 030 – 4(2): Refusing Medical Client Services

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

The minister is well aware, as I brought this up at the winter session, of patients who go to another community or to a central location to be assessed and diagnosed of their illnesses.

Mr. Speaker, I have been told on more than one occasion that the patient knows that there is something wrong with their

body, but are not assessed. In talking to these clients, there was one person who almost died and had to pay his own transportation to get to a central location for assessment by health professionals.

With those types of incidents happening, Nunavummiut have to know when patients are not seen by health professionals or by doctors, who they can call to get help so that they are provided proper services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking that question. Anyone who goes to a health centre or seeing a staff member at the hospital, and looking at the way the process goes, if they have a complaint, if they are not provided proper services, not assessed or diagnosed, denied services, or would like some answers to their questions, they can direct their questions to the Patient Relations Office. It is set up to provide services to those types of clients. The Patient Relations Office has a toll-free number and it is 1-855-483-3003. The staff can be contacted any time to provide those types of services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for her clear response. Do the regional hospital and health centres in the Nunavut communities provide the contact information so that the people

with problems or concerns can contact that number? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): The hospital and health centres are provided with this information. When we first got elected, I sent out letters and contact numbers for the liaison office. Whenever we travel to any of the communities in Nunavut, we make sure that this information is brought and put in public places. Again, when I get a call or if I get visited, I send out business cards that provide the information in English, Inuktitut, and Inuinnaqtun. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister. I recall receiving that information at that time, but what I wanted to know was whether this information is put in a public place, at the clinics, or where people go for the services that are provided by the health centres so that they can access the liaison office if they need such information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Yes, the information is provided to all the clinics. They're put in a public place either by the door or in the clinic. If they're unavailable, make sure to let me

know so that we can send out directives. The Department of Health directors were here. We made a presentation to the directors and we also defined the roles and responsibilities of those directors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

Question 031 – 4(2): Response to Income Assistance Question

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like my colleague from Pond Inlet, I noted with some interest the written response to Mr. Sammurtok's question.

With your responses to my colleague from Pond Inlet on the negotiation or discussions with the federal government on adjusting programs delivered by the governments of Canada and Nunavut, I didn't hear a commitment on whether you're willing or able to initiate those types of discussions. Would the minister be able to respond to that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Please clearly indicate which minister you're asking.

Mr. Hickes: My apologies, Mr. Speaker. It's the Minister of Family Services, Minister Ugyuk.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question concerning whether or not we will have a financial meeting on income support. From my

understanding, all the finance ministers in Canada meet, including Nunavut, and work together and set up the income support figures. The finance ministers agree with each other as to how much money will be in the budgets. That's how I can reply to your question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Hickes

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the minister may be a little bit confused from the response that she had provided to Mr. Sammurtok. I quite clearly was discussing programs delivered by the Government of Canada, not by Income Support.

Is this minister willing to commit to having discussions with the federal government on federal programs administered to the residents of Nunavut on recognizing the significantly higher cost of living here in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to my colleague for that question. As to whether we can set up a meeting with the government that provides the funding, I have to meet with the finance minister first before I can respond to your question properly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Also in the response from the written question, it said, “Initiating such change through dialogue with the federal government would require consultation and involvement of several GN departments.”

The minister has mentioned the Department of Finance. What other departments would the minister have to discuss or consult with to initiate discussions with the federal government on just getting them to assist and recognize the high cost of living in Nunavut?

I think it’s quite a well-known fact that the cost of living in Nunavut is higher than anywhere else in Canada. I’m a little unclear on what kind of consultations would be needed to have that discussion with their federal counterparts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to my colleague for requesting clarification on who we should be meeting with. I would like my colleague to understand that we are starting to look into this in the family services department to see the differences in food prices. There are really no figures in the Department of Family Services that we can work with. The Department of Family Services is conducting a food price survey to compare them.

I can respond by saying that I would have to speak with the finance minister.

The other departments don’t really have anything to do with it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

(interpretation) I’m sorry. I wasn’t keeping an eye on the time. The time allotted for this item has expired. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 003 – 4(2): Extended Sitting Hours and Days – Notice

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, May 26, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by Hon. Member for Netsilik, 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 2014 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 15. Notices of

Motions for First Reading of Bills. The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 – Notice

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2014-2015 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, May 26, 2014, that Bill 2, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015*, be read for the first time.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, May 26, 2014, that Bill 3, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2014-2015*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. [Consideration in] Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that there's a meeting of Management and Services Board at half past one in the Tuktu Room.

Orders of the Day for May 26:

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

22. Report of the Committee of the
Whole

23. Third Reading of Bills

24. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
(interpretation ends) This House stands
adjourned until Monday, May 26 at 1:30
p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 10:43*

