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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. George Qulaut
(Amittuq)

Tony Akoak
(Gjoa Haven)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Environment

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet South)

Pat Angnakak
(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

Simeon Mikkungwak
(Baker Lake)

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

Hon. Monica Ell
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Health

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Minister of Community and Government Services

Joe Enook
(Tununiq)

Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

Samuel Nuqingaq
(Uqqummiut)

Joe Savikataaq
(Arviat South)

Hon. Paul Okalik
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister of Justice; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for Labour; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Isaac Shooyook
(Quttiktuq)

George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

Hon. Peter Taptuna
(Kugluktuk)

Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

David Joanasic
(South Baffin)

Hon. Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk
(Netsilik)

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)

Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

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Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	1114
Ministers' Statements	1114
Members' Statements	1118
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	1123
Oral Questions.....	1123
Notices of Motions	1137
Motions.....	1138
Second Reading of Bills	1141
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	1143
Report of the Committee of the Whole	1152
Orders of the Day	1152

A.

Daily References

Friday, October 24, 2014.....1114

B.

Ministers' Statements

055 – 4(2): Dr. Michael Shouldice Retirement (Quassa)1114

056 – 4(2): Change in Ownership – Pangnirtung Fisheries Limited (Kuksuk)1115

057 – 4(2): Balanced Literacy: Literacy Initiative for Nunavut Schools (Quassa)1116

058 – 4(2): Congratulations to 30 Years of Service to the Government of Nunavut (Taptuna) 1116

059 – 4(2): Congratulations to Long-term Service Award Recipients with More Than 20 Years of
Service to the Government of Nunavut (Peterson)1117

C.

Members' Statements

129 – 4(2): Tribute to Parliamentary Employees (Hickes).....1118

130 – 4(2): Merits of Hospital Board (Angnakak)1118

131 – 4(2): Tribute to Noah Kolola Michael (Joanasie).....1119

132 – 4(2): Successful Partnership for Tununiq (Enook).....1120

133 – 4(2): Recipients of Long-term Service Awards (Mike).....1121

134 – 4(2): Kivalliq Summer Games (Sammurtok)1121

135 – 4(2): Congratulations to Gail Redpath for Long-term Service Award (Shooyook)1122

136 – 4(2): First Beluga Harvest in Baker Lake (Mikkungwak).....1122

D.

Oral Questions

206 – 4(2): Financial Support for Adult Learners (Mapsalak)1123

207 – 4(2): Access to Community Health Services (Akoak)	1125
208 – 4(2): Support for Parents (Enook)	1126
209 – 4(2): Statutory Eligibility for Seniors Programs (Mikkungwak).....	1128
210 – 4(2): Merits of Hospital Boards (Angnakak).....	1129
211 – 4(2): Social Services Transformation Plan (Hickes)	1131
212 – 4(2): Arviat Water Pump Station (Savikataaq).....	1132
213 – 4(2): Management of the Baffin Island Caribou Population (Joanasie).....	1133
214 – 4(2): Expired Foods (Hickes)	1135
215 – 4(2): ASIST Training (Joanasie)	1136

E.

Motions

010 – 4(2): Expulsion from the Legislative Assembly of the Member for Uqqummiut – Notice (Okalik).....	1137
011 – 4(2): Extended Sitting Hours and Days – Notice (Mikkungwak)	1137
012 – 4(2): Extension of Review Period for Bill 1, Northern Employee Benefits Services Pension Plan Act – Notice (Savikataaq).....	1138
010 – 4(2): Expulsion from the Legislative Assembly of the Member for Uqqummiut (Okalik)	1138

F.

Bills

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014 – Second Reading	1141
Bill 05 – Write-off of Assets Act, 2013-2014 – Second Reading	1141
Bill 06 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2014-2015 – Second Reading ...	1141

Bill 07 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2014-2015 –
Second Reading1142

Bill 09 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 5, 2013-2014 – Second Reading ...1142

Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2015-2016 – Economic Development and Transportation –
Consideration in Committee1143

Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, October 24, 2014

Members Present:

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

>>*House commenced at 9:01*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Mr. Shooyook, can you say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning, members, ministers, and all Nunavummiut. I wish you a wonderful morning. Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. (interpretation ends) Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 055 – 4(2): Dr. Michael Shouldice Retirement**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to all the people of Igloolik and Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, from his early days as an adult educator in 1987, Dr. Michael

Shouldice has been a leader in our college community. In 1988, Mike became vice-president of what was then known as Keewatin Campus, later moving into the position of campus director and dean for our college's Kivalliq Campus.

Mr. Speaker, Mike has served as president of Nunavut Arctic College since 2011. Under his leadership, the college has seen significant accomplishments in all of the college's corporate goals.

In the last three years, the college has obtained funding to improve all aspects of the adult basic education programs, resulting in improved outcomes for adult learners. New post-secondary programs have been developed to meet labour market demands for early childhood educators and training in the tourism sector. Enrolments in the Nunavut Trades Training Centre continue to rise with the introduction of more apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs, preparing a skilled workforce to meet increasing demands in the mineral exploration and mining sectors.

Mr. Speaker, under Mike's leadership, the college assumed responsibility for the Piqusilirivvik Centre. This, along with the planned creation of the Inuit Language and Culture Centre of Excellence, will position the college to be the world leader in research and teaching of Inuit knowledge, language, and culture.

Pitsiaqsimaniqpaaq - Achieving Academic Excellence is a foundational goal of the college. Mr. Speaker, during Mike's term of office as president, quality assurance procedures have been

strengthened and new credit transfer agreements established.

Mr. Speaker, Mike leaves Nunavut Arctic College in a stronger financial position, ensuring that the college will be able to continue to maintain momentum and build on the accomplishments of the last three years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mike Shouldice on his retirement. We wish him the very best of success in his new position as a full-time grandfather. We are very pleased with the work that he has done at Arctic College and I would like the members to join me in congratulating and thanking him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister Mr. Kuksuk.

**Minister's Statement 056 – 4(2):
Change in Ownership –
Pangnirtung Fisheries Limited**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I say “good morning” to my fellow Nunavummiut and Arviarmiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, at the end of September, Cumberland Sound Fisheries, Niqitaq Fisheries, and the Nunavut Development Corporation concluded a transaction making Cumberland Sound Fisheries the majority owner of Pangnirtung Fisheries.

Pangnirtung Fisheries was incorporated in September 1992 as an NDC subsidiary, with the Nunavut

Development Corporation holding 51 percent of the equity and its joint venture partner, Cumberland Sound Fisheries, owning the balance. The plant was constructed in 1994 and received its first turbot landings in the winter of 1995. As a result of the transaction, as of October 1, Cumberland Sound now holds a 51 percent controlling interest in Pangnirtung Fisheries, with Niqitaq Fisheries and NDC holding the remaining shares.

The partnership between Cumberland Sound and NDC has been a strong one. The exploratory work by Cumberland Sound Fisheries in the early years of the fishery put in place the foundation for the \$70 million industry we know today.

The change in ownership will not impact income-earning opportunities at Pangnirtung Fisheries, which employs 30 seasonal plant workers and generates \$2 million in employment and income opportunities for local residents and businesses.

I would like to congratulate all those individuals in Pangnirtung who have worked hard on this local economic development project over the years, as well as the management and board of the Nunavut Development Corporation whose hard work have helped prepare Pangnirtung Fisheries to take this important step forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 057 – 4(2):
Balanced Literacy: Literacy
Initiative for Nunavut Schools**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to present information on the ongoing literacy initiative for Nunavut schools. This literacy initiative reflects *Sivumut Abluqta* priorities for increasing high school graduation rates, increasing access and participation rates in post-secondary education, and building a skilled workforce that will contribute and benefit from a vibrant and healthy society.

Mr. Speaker, our goal is to ensure that all Nunavut students have the opportunity to read, write, and speak at high levels of proficiency in all official languages. My department is working towards ensuring our high school graduates leave school with literacy skills that will enable them to pursue career and post-secondary aspirations.

Balanced literacy is a comprehensive approach to literacy development that includes strategies to support reading, writing, and word study. Guided reading and guided writing are key components of the Balanced Literacy Strategy. The goal is for students to gain mastery of each level of text difficulty and progress towards a common standard of literacy proficiency at each grade level.

Mr. Speaker, we are working hard to ensure that literacy assessment of students is consistent across the territory, is transparent and well understood by parents and students, and helps to inform teachers' daily practice. Benchmark assessment, an important part of

balanced literacy, is a systematic approach to determining students' reading levels and allows teachers to target their instruction to the specific needs of each student.

Our goal is to build a strong foundation for all students by providing resources and support to teachers that will enable them to deliver high-quality learning experiences for students and encourage their future success. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Premier Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 058 – 4(2):
Congratulations to 30 Years of
Service to the Government of
Nunavut**

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut.

Yesterday evening, I had the pleasure to attend the long-term service awards and thank the employees who have provided us with more than 30 years of service. Many of those individuals are in the House today and I want to extend my gratitude and appreciation to these dedicated employees for their years of public service to the citizens of Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, awards recipients come from a broad spectrum of our workforce throughout the territory. This long-term service of our employees is an example of strong leadership within our own workforce.

Mr. Speaker, as our government matures and continues to expand our training and mentorship programs, I am confident that we are going to continue seeing positive results and a growing workforce that is committed to growing with us.

Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize those employees with more than 30 years of service and they are:

Lena Metuq (Education)
 Millie Kuliktana (Education)
 Gail Redpath (Health)
 Dimaris Saimaut (Health)

Mr. Speaker, I am also proud to recognize the following employees with more than 35 years of service and they are:

Tirak Parr (Nunavut Arctic College)
 Mary Ellen Thomas (Nunavut Arctic College)
 Lorne Levy (Community and Government Services)

Mr. Speaker, once again, I extend a great appreciation to our dedicated workforce here in the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister Peterson.

**Minister's Statement 059 – 4(2):
 Congratulations to Long-term
 Service Award Recipients with
 More Than 20 Years of Service to
 the Government of Nunavut**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Nunavummiut

and constituents in the riding of Cambridge Bay.

Mr. Speaker, last night, I joined the Premier and colleagues from this House to recognize a number of government employees for their long-term service to our government. Last night's reception was for employees who have completed more than 20 years of service. Mr. Speaker, these long-term employees were here to see the creation of Nunavut and they continue to contribute to the growth of our territory.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honouring these individual employees who have provided more than 20 years of service to our government and they are:

Louise Flaherty (Nunavut Arctic College)
 JP Derooy (Justice)
 Mary Munick (Health)
 Martha Willie (Health)
 Ooloota Kolola (Education)
 Julia Tautuajuk (Education)
 Mary Bender (Health)
 George Koonoo (Environment)
 Daphne Covernton (Health)
 Joanne Dignard (Health)
 Cathy Rose (Health)
 Lavinia Nagmalik (Health)
 Kanitisse Idlout (Health)
 Mary Byrne (Health)
 Noah Tassugat (Health)
 Helen Bejamin (Health)
 Rhoda Olayuk (Education)
 Jeannie Metuq (Economic Development and Transportation)

On behalf of the government, I would also like to extend congratulations to the following employees who have provided

25 years of dedicated service to our government:

Kathleen Okpik (Education)
 Sheila Kolola (Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs)
 Irene Tagoona (Environment)
 Suzanne Wilkes (Finance)
 Edwin Zebedee (Community and Government Services)
 Richard Armstrong (Nunavut Arctic College)
 Glen Higgins (Community and Government Services)
 Naullaq Arnaquq (Culture and Heritage)
 Jacques Fortier (Justice)
 Joanna Quassa (Culture and Heritage)
 Claudette Girouard Qamanirq (Health)
 Rosie Kudlualik (Health)
 Meeka Alivaktak (Education)
 Jeeteetah Kalluk (Education)
 Joapie Killiktee (Health)
 Apea Sowdluapik (Health)
 Joeline Tongak (Education)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. Item 3. (interpretation) Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 129 – 4(2): Tribute to Parliamentary Employees

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As most people are aware of some familial connections and the long-term experience of members of my family sitting in your Chair, I have the utmost

respect for the Speaker and his office. Mr. Speaker, I also have a lot of respect for the roles of the people who work under your office.

Mr. Speaker, as has been shown very recently in our nation's capital, the Sergeant-at-Arms position is not just a symbolic position within the Westminster style of government.

I would like to take this time to recognize Mr. Vickers, but also our own Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Simanek Kilabuk, who sits and oversees our proceedings every day.

Mr. Speaker, a number of people are responsible for security in legislatures and our Parliament across the country; commissionaires and the RCMP.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to also recognize one of our own, Mr. Kipanik Eegeesiak from Iqaluit, who has been stationed by the RCMP to guard our nation's capital on the Parliament grounds in Ottawa. Mr. Speaker, he was on site for the tragic events that occurred recently. I am happy to report that Kip is safe. I would like to take this time to specifically recognize him for not just his service to Nunavut but to our nation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 130 – 4(2): Merits of Hospital Boards

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to you all.

Before I start my Member's Statement, I just want to say "congratulations" to all the long-term employee recipients. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to talk about health and it's unfortunate the minister is not quite here, but I'm going to go ahead anyhow.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to once again encourage the government to establish a board of management at the Qikiqtani General Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, in May, I asked the Minister of Health if any consideration had been given to establishing a hospital board. The minister indicated that she would get her staff to look into it. Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the minister's staff will have identified a number of merits to having a standalone board of management for the hospital.

Mr. Speaker, having reviewed capital substantiation sheets, we are all aware that the cost of new medical equipment can be very high. A standalone hospital board would be able to fundraise and purchase specific items of equipment for the hospital as they are needed.

Mr. Speaker, the wheels of the government often turn very slowly. Having a hospital board would reduce the level of bureaucracy involved in getting things done. A hospital board would be able to address hospital needs in an efficient and timely manner.

Mr. Speaker, a successful board is made up of individuals from different walks of life who bring their expertise, knowledge, and business savvy to the operation of a critical service. All

Nunavummiut could benefit from the government having this type of partner in ensuring the delivery of a high-quality health service.

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

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

**Member's Statement 131 – 4(2):
Tribute to Noah Kolola Michael**

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to everyone here in the Gallery. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise and recognize Noah Kolola Michael of Kimmirut, who saved Johnny Lee Judea from drowning in the frigid waters outside the community.

Mr. Speaker, a group of men, including Johnny Lee and Noah, were out boating ten years ago. The rest of their hunting party landed ashore to take a hike while Johnny Lee and Noah stayed on board.

Mr. Speaker, while they were anchored close off shore, Johnny Lee accidentally slipped and fell into the open water. Noah tried using a *Niksik* (a hook) to get him back. He could hardly swim. However, Mr. Speaker, Noah accidentally dropped the hook that he was trying to give to Johnny Lee. Johnny Lee managed to give it back to him, even though he was in the water. He was able to pull him back onto the canoe out of the water.

Mr. Speaker, Johnny Lee tried at one point to swim to shore, but then he

realized that he wouldn't make it, so he turned back towards the canoe by trying to swim. He was struggling trying to stay afloat, but Noah was able to grab him and pull him back into the canoe.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honouring Noah, who saved Johnny Lee in his time of need and further, I am especially grateful to him for his selflessness in saving another person's life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

**Member's Statement 132 – 4(2):
Successful Partnership for
Tununig**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Pond Inlet as well as to all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share good news about a positive initiative concerning communications in Tununig. Mr. Speaker, I spoke earlier this week about issues concerning telephone communication in my constituency. However, the initiative I share today shows that we can work together to achieve good.

Many Nunavummiut participate in Inuit traditions that have been practised for centuries, including hunting. However, in light of constant change in our climate and environment, hunters aren't always able to easily communicate, especially when there are emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, what I want to convey today and share with my colleagues is our immense pleasure as Tununirmiut and residents of Pond Inlet for the recent installation of marine VHF radio repeater system technology. Mr. Speaker, this technology allows hunters to communicate with handheld radio devices among one another, with community organizations and emergency service organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to the Department of Community and Government Services for investing in this initiative as the core funder. If it weren't for them, this initiative wouldn't have been able to proceed.

I also thank the following parties for their contributions. They are: Brian Koonoo, Martin Visser, and Robert Howards; the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Association; the Hamlet of Pond Inlet; the Polar Continental Shelf Program; and Parks Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the installation of this technology in June in our community has positively impacted my constituency, especially our hunters. Due to that reason, I ask all members to join me in applauding this successful initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Mike.

**Member's Statement 133 – 4(2):
Recipients of Long-term Service
Awards**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good morning” to the residents of Pangnirtung and Nunavut. I appreciate this opportunity to make my statement.

I rise today to speak to events that were held here in Iqaluit last night, where awards were presented to employees of the Nunavut government who have served for many years.

There were several residents of Pangnirtung who were recognized for their long service in the employ of the government last night. On behalf of the residents of Pangnirtung and the community, I wish to acknowledge these long-time workers. They have also provided a great deal of assistance through their work and served the people generously.

Also, the people who were at last night's event were awarded with letters of appreciation and I want to express my pride in their accomplishments. I also know some of the recipients of these awards quite well. Some of them are present in the House right now. Some of them lived in Pangnirtung before and are from there.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Julia Tautuajuk, who completed 20 years; Mary Bender, who completed 20 years; and Jeannie Metuq, who also has been working for 20 years for the government. For 25 years, Meeka Alivaktak has been serving the Nunavut government, as has Apea Sowdluapik. Lena Metuq has been working for 30

years for the government. I am proud of these citizens and I would like you all to be proud of them as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Tom Sammurtok.

**Member's Statement 134 – 4(2):
Kivalliq Summer Games**

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my fellow residents of Chesterfield Inlet and Nunavummiut.

I rise today to recognize people from my home community of Chesterfield Inlet and congratulate them on winning the 2014 Kivalliq Summer Games this past September.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Kivalliq Summer Games is an opportunity for representatives from the seven Kivalliq communities to get together and participate in cultural events ranging from traditional games to bannock and tea making. It is also a great way to preserve our culture.

(interpretation) Chesterfield Inlet finished the competition with a total of 90 points and took home the gold. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank and express my pride in the following participants:

Elders – Eli Kimmaliardjuk and Leonie Mimialik

Senior men – Trevor Autut, James Tautu, and Nathaniel Mimialik

Senior ladies – Elizabeth Kukkiak and
Doriana Sammurtok
Junior boys – Inuumiq Kuglugiak and
Jeffrey Kukkiak
Junior girls – Courtney Samok
Coaches – Blair Tautu Boteau and Larry
Tautu
Official – Gloria Thompson

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker,
although I wasn't there, there was a
potluck held by the community on
September 27 to congratulate this team.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 135 – 4(2):
Congratulations to Gail Redpath
for Long-term Service Award**

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank
you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, people of
Nunavut. Welcome, visitors.

I would like to show my appreciation in
my community for a nurse at the health
centre, Gail. She has provided
tremendous assistance and who has been
helping people in great and urgent
distress. She is a tireless health worker
and I really appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, I would like you to join me
in recognition of Gail, who works at the
health centre in Arctic Bay. Thank you,
Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 136 – 4(2): First
Beluga Harvest in Baker Lake**

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation):
Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I
say "good morning" to all Nunavummiut
and residents of Baker Lake. Good
morning indeed to my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, this morning, I am
sincerely happy to make this statement.
Everyone in Nunavut knows that Baker
Lake is the only community not situated
along the sea coast but on a lake.
However, this summer, you may have
read that in Baker Lake, there was a
sight which has never been seen. I am
pleased to be able to talk about what
took place.

This past summer, we saw something
which is uncharacteristic for our
community. Many people were
extremely happy. Many people of
Nunavut who saw what took place were
also happy on August 7 this past
summer. Although there were still
mosquitoes and the black flies were
beginning to swarm, we did not mind
any of these pests.

I am pleased to say that Peter
Owingayak was able to harpoon a beluga
whale in Baker Lake. Peter Tapatai was
the pilot and boat mate, along with his
father David Owingayak. The whale was
harpooned on August 7. Even though we
are a landlocked community with a lake
and a river, we were able to catch a
beluga whale that normally swims in
Hudson Bay. After two or three days, we
got a second whale. Paul Kaluk Niego,

my son-in-law, caught the second beluga whale.

I thank God for the opportunities that these hunters were able to get what they don't normally get and feed a whole lot of people in Baker Lake. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my family members. I would first like to recognize my nephew Isaiah Nungusuituq, my daughter's son, my wife, Emily Joanasié, and our child, Pittaaluk Joanasié. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am proud to recognize Gail and Claudette Qamanirq. I recognize these two individuals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of

Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to recognize my constituents, Mary Ellen Thomas, whom I have known for a very long time, and Cindy, who was here, but not here now. I recognize her anyways. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this time to recognize a couple of constituents that I have in the Gallery today who recently talked me into, through their volunteer work with the Rotary Club, of participating in a dunking challenge and hopefully I helped contribute with some of your fundraising activities. I would like to recognize Lorne Levy and Sheila Levy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 206 – 4(2): Financial Support for Adult Learners

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my

question to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues will be aware, when the Department of Family Services was established, part of its mandate included the delivery of the Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students program.

As the minister will be aware, the FANS program no longer provides funding for some of the adult learning programs that it used to fund. Can the minister clearly describe what steps have been taken to inform adult education staff at Nunavut community learning centres about changes in funding options for adult learners? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for seeking clarification on how the FANS program is operated. This program has two aspects to it, with one part specific to diploma or certificate programs and the other is the (interpretation ends) Adult Learning and Training Supports (ALTS) for career development (interpretation) that is also operated under this program. I want my colleague to understand how it is operated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has come to my attention that a number of applications for the adult education funding submitted from our

communities to the FANS Division of Family Services were denied.

Instead of advising the staff at the community learning centres of their decisions, Family Services staff informed Nunavut Arctic College headquarters staff and the decision was not communicated further until the deadline to submit a new application was past.

Can the minister explain why her departmental staff are not doing more to ensure that community-based adult learners can access the funding that they need to continue their education? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. The FANS funding application forms include deadlines and, if you submit past these deadlines, then a student will have difficulty accessing the program. That is what I can respond with to my colleague, that previous approvals may lapse. There is legislation that governs this program and sometimes students are not approved if they don't fulfill all the criteria. That's what I know about this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps the minister could indicate, for applications that head to the department past the deadline, what

is the usual way of communicating whether or not their applications have been approved or whether they have run out of time in terms of the application process. What kind of communication do they provide to the communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for requesting clarification on the deadlines. There is a website containing the information and it includes the criteria. It shows the deadline and there is also an extension period of a month if the application is late. These timelines are in line with the offering of educational programs and these are also posted on the website. It is quite clear.

All applicants have other funds to access as well, such as from the (interpretation ends) career development (interpretation) programs, and the funding comes from another department. That's all I can speak to at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Question 207 – 4(2): Access to Community Health Services

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Inuit and Uqhuqtuurmiut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, I have received a number of concerns from my constituents regarding the long waiting times to get an appointment at the Gjoa Haven Community Health Centre. It has also been brought to my attention that residents who used to be contacted to get regular checkups are no longer seeing the nurses on a regular basis.

Can the minister indicate whether or not she is aware of the long wait times for Gjoa Haven residents to get appointments at the health centre and, if she is aware, can she explain why this is happening? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I don't have the specifics of individual wait times for all health centres in Nunavut and I could discuss that with the member and get back to him. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the residents of Gjoa Haven understand that when there is an emergency, health centre staff need to deal with urgent cases as a priority. However, there should still be time built in to the community health centre schedule to ensure that non-emergency clients are able to receive health services on a timely basis.

Can the minister provide an update on whether the community of Gjoa Haven is experiencing a shortage of nursing

staff or whether there is a higher volume of people seeking health services? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The health professionals in Nunavut are lacking staffing. I can't find the information on whether there's a lack of health professionals in [Gjoa Haven]. I will look into the short staffing of the health department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the answer. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that there may be a number of factors affecting the ability of health centre staff to provide health services on a timely basis.

Will the minister commit to looking into the situation and getting back to me so that I can communicate to the residents of Gjoa Haven what her department intends to do about it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have stated, I will bring information to the member regarding staffing in the community of Gjoa Haven. Staffing in Nunavut is very difficult.

(interpretation ends) I'll speak English, Mr. Speaker, so that interpretation can be proper.

Trying to retain qualified nurses to ensure that health centres are fully staffed and providing the highest level of services throughout Nunavut is usually a challenge. We compete with other Canadian jurisdictions. Not only that, we also compete with other countries. When we are not able to fill them and when they do become vacant for one reason or another or people go on holidays, we try to staff it immediately with a casual nurse and, if that is not available, we usually try to staff it with an agency nurse. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 208 – 4(2): Support for Parents

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

Mr. Speaker, I am very concerned that when children are apprehended by social services staff, there appears to be very little support for the parents of those children to get back on their feet and to get their children back. I fully support the notion that home situations must be safe and secure for children. However, parents need counselling and support to be able to fix whatever problems they have in order that their children can come home and be with them in a safe and secure environment.

My first question to the minister is: can the minister indicate whether or not counselling is provided to parents who have had their children apprehended by social services and, if so, how often do they get counselled before getting their children back? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for that question. The situation is usually different in each case where apprehension is required. The children are apprehended if the law has been broken. Apprehensions are usually a result of a person breaking the law.

With respect to the type of counselling the member asked about, it depends on the situation. I do know that once the reasons have been identified, the parents don't always agree with the apprehension. In some cases, the parents don't agree with the reasons for the apprehension. That's what I can respond with at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question wasn't really answered, in my opinion. I will try to ask again about the matter.

When parents are faced with a potential apprehension, what kind of assistance is provided to the parents? Is there counselling of the parents to ensure that children can be returned to a safe home?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This issue is very complex, as it's case by case. A lot of the parents who have children apprehended have to face the issues why the child was apprehended in the first place. A lot of times, it's complex. They don't admit that they have a problem and there's the issue right there in the Act that says they do. It varies from each case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I still haven't received an appropriate response, but it is impossible to remain on the same subject. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, if I rephrase my question, I can get an answer.

When parents whose children have been apprehended by your department or officials from the Department of Family Services, and if all things fall into place and the children are allowed to return to their parents' house, where the parents are able to be retake stewardship of their children in their home, in those cases where children are returned, what arrangements are made to deal with the case file of these children being returned to their parents? Is there any set protocol to follow in these cases? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Family Services, Hon. Minister Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought I had answered the member's question appropriately.

The reasons vary, depending on each case where apprehension of children is contemplated. The children who are apprehended are kept at foster homes for a certain period, in some cases, for over a year. The social workers are open to counselling the parents and prior to returning the children, they have to ensure the parents meet the criteria.

However, what I want the member to understand clearly is that not all parents agree with the reasons for apprehending their children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 209 – 4(2): Statutory Eligibility for Seniors Programs

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice.

As the minister is aware, both the territorial and federal governments offer a range of programs and services for elders and seniors. However, the question of who qualifies as a senior can vary depending on the program. For example, people aged 60 and over can apply for the territorial Senior Fuel Subsidy Program, but you have to be 65 or older to apply for the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Program.

Can the minister tell the House if the Government of Nunavut has an official

definition of what age constitutes being an elder or a senior citizen? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not responsible for those programs, so I cannot respond to the question and I apologize for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Mikkungwak, can you clarify who you are directing your question to, please. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice.

As the minister is aware, both the territorial and federal governments offer a range of programs and services for elders and seniors. However, the question of who qualifies as a senior can vary depending on the program. For example, people aged 60 and over can apply for the territorial Senior Fuel Subsidy Program, but you have to be 65 or older to apply for the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Program.

Can the minister tell the House if the Government of Nunavut has an official definition of what age constitutes being an elder or a senior citizen? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is asking for a definition. I would assume

that such a definition would be in legislation. Mr. Okalik, Premier. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the question to the Department of Justice, it is something we have no authority and so we cannot answer that question. Each department establishes their own definitions, so the question has to be directed to them individually. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the government willing to look at the issue of harmonizing the age requirements for its various programs and services? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Justice, Hon. Minister Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The programs and services are not defined in detail in legislation, although some are mentioned in legislation and so that is an excellent question. My ministerial colleagues are listening and I have no doubt they will examine the issue further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, there have been ongoing debates at the national level concerning the federal government's move towards increasing the age of eligibility for the Old Age

Security program from 65 to 67. What is the Government of Nunavut's position on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Justice has little to do with this issue as it affects seniors. We look at legislative aspects in Nunavut and how we can better enforce legislation for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Question 210 – 4(2): Merits of Hospital Boards

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

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the minister will recall my question of May 23, 2014 about establishing a board of management at the Qikiqtani General Hospital. At the time, the minister indicated that she would ask her staff to look into it.

Can the minister provide an update on what consideration has now been given to establishing a Qikiqtani General Hospital Board? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I do recall the conversation in the last session on this topic. The current government mandate does not list a re-examination of health boards as a priority, but saying that, we can look at ways on how we can engage with communities and to the public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister for her response. In my Member's Statement, I provided a few examples about the merits of establishing a hospital board. Would the minister agree that the ability to fundraise, the reduction of bureaucratic backlog, and having the guidance of a group of qualified and experienced individuals are all good reasons to establish a board of management for the Qikiqtani General Hospital? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. She is asking for an opinion and I can't really provide an opinion.

As part of the health boards and their history with the creation of Nunavut, the three regional health and social services boards were dissolved. Since then, the services that they provided have been administered through the government's Department of Health and Social Services, now the Department of Health, and the program review may include

examining other options for community engagement that I mentioned in the delivery of health care services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My response back to that would be: just because something has been done in the past, it doesn't mean it was the right move, as we have to go forward towards the future and look at what is the best possible way of running the hospital. We have encountered a lot of problems with it and I think that establishing a health board, I know, is going to be a big step and would require the full support of government.

Will the minister commit to addressing the need for the board of management for the Qikiqtani General Hospital with her cabinet colleagues? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With our staff and officials, we do review and see how we can provide the best service and how we can agree with the communities for engagement. We will always be working on that. We can look into what you're saying, but I can't say ahead of time what results we will see. Thank you.

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

Question 211 – 4(2): Social Services Transformation Plan

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've had a couple questions this week for the Minister responsible for Family Services with some of her written responses to some of the concerns brought forward by the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts. I have another one for the minister today.

Mr. Speaker, with one of the responses regarding the Social Services Transformation Plan, it clearly stated in there that the plan was not implemented in its entirety, although some key aspects of the plan were implemented. What aspects of the Social Services Transformation Plan were not implemented? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Auditor General of Canada provided a list of recommendations in the areas they wanted improved and we have agreed with the recommendations. It is quite a slow process, but we are moving forward with the recommendations with a focus on our prioritized items. We are trying to implement all of the recommendations.

The community has to identify counselling and the social workers are trying to improve the system. That's what I understand how the process is set up. We communicate with the communities about social service issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not hear an answer to my question in there. What I was specifically asking for is what aspects of the Social Services Transformation Plan had not been implemented. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for the misunderstanding, as my dialect in Inuktitut can't be understood properly.

However, the member wanted to understand which aspects of the plan haven't been implemented. In our communications with the communities about social service issues, we follow the protocol designed to include them, (interpretation ends) community engagement. (interpretation) That's the only area I know of that requires further implementation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the aspects in the plan that is stating that were implemented was a specific campaign in conjunction with the Department of Human Resources to centrally recruit staff/workplace review of all three regions. Can the minister update this House on the status of those objectives? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Last week, the administration provided a list of offices with the number of employees. I can meet with the member to apprise him personally on this information so he can understand where the offices are situated and the number of workers in these offices as well as vacancies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 212 – 4(2): Arviat Water Pump Station

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question this morning is to the Minister of CG&S.

During the spring sitting, the minister committed to looking at and finding a solution to the problem of having only one water pump outlet in the reservoir in Arviat. As of today, there is still only one slow-running water outlet and all the time, it creates the problem of people waiting for water. At times, there are up to three water trucks waiting for water to get filled and, in turn, houses with empty water tanks are waiting to get filled.

Can the minister give me an update on what has been done to fix that problem of having only one slow water outlet in the reservoir in Arviat? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From the time this issue was introduced, our department has been continually working on it and we are currently reviewing it to see if we can make improvements to it. Thank you.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister said that they're working it. Can the minister give us a date and what has been done to date? Like he said, he's working on it. Can he give us a firm commitment on what will be done and by what date? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are working on that issue at this time to see what system would best fit and we are also looking at other community reservoirs to see which system would be the best fit. Based on that, we will decide which system will be provided to Arviat. Thank you.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister stated that they're looking at other communities to see what would be the best solution for Arviat's problem. That's my understanding of what he said.

Arviat is the biggest community that has trucked-in water service, so I think it would have to have a solution on its own because all other towns are smaller than Arviat that have pumped service. The only bigger town is here in Iqaluit and they don't have much trucked water service, I believe. We have to come up with a solution that is for Arviat because all other communities are smaller.

I'm asking the minister: by next summer, will that problem be fixed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I also thank the member for his question. Indeed, my previous response made reference to different systems, as communities have different systems in place. However, our department is working on this problem. We have prepared a plan for it and further, we want to undertake that project next summer. We are working for the purpose of rectifying whatever problem exists by next year. Thank you.

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

Question 213 – 4(2): Management of the Baffin Island Caribou Population

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, based on the findings from the department's recent aerial survey of the Baffin Island caribou population, it is clear that changes to the current management measures will need to be implemented. As the minister is aware, ensuring the survival of this species is essential to preserving the traditions and livelihoods of Inuit in the Baffin region.

Mr. Speaker, on May 28, 2014, the minister indicated that his department is working with co-management partners, including the hunters and trappers organizations, to develop a Baffin Island caribou management plan.

Can the minister specify what actions his department is taking to collect information and recommendations from local hunters and trappers associations and regional wildlife organizations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Environment, Hon. Minister Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question in relation to this issue. The Department of Environment has a very good working relationship with the HTOs and the regional wildlife organizations in relation to this issue in this region. The research that has been conducted and the studies that have been conducted on the

number of caribou are still ongoing.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We look forward to a more elaborate answer. However, in that vein, I would ask if the minister can indicate if his department has discussed the possibility of relocating caribou from outside the area to increase the Baffin Island caribou population and, if so, what were the outcomes of that discussion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
(interpretation ends) Minister of Environment, Hon. Minister Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I mentioned that we are dealing with this situation, the issue of caribou, along with those who manage wildlife in the Baffin region. I know that there have been concerns about the caribou population. All materials that have been collected are being reviewed at the present time.

I can also indicate that this spring, the Department of Environment dealt with the elders' advisory committee, which looked at this issue this summer too. Also, those who are dealing with the caribou wildlife populations, including what the communities have heard, have done, and have worked on, will be at meetings which, I believe, are scheduled for next week on November 3 and 4 here in Iqaluit. After that meeting, we will have a better sense of how it will be set up.

With respect to the member's questions, I can't elaborate until the meeting has taken place to discuss these issues by the various wildlife organizations, particularly those that deal with caribou. That meeting will discuss these issues next week here in Iqaluit, where they will discuss caribou-related issues in the Baffin region. After the meeting has been concluded, we will have a better understanding of the management issues and of the direction we may need to undertake in managing our caribou population. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to my previous question, the minister didn't answer all of it, although he partially answered it by hinting of a future meeting.

For my final supplementary question, I can fairly predict what the action items will be. However, has any consideration been given by the Department of Environment on the impact of wolves? For example, past practices included culling wolves to protect the caribou, as wolves have an impact on caribou populations. Will there be a call to cull wolves? We know that wolves have an impact on caribou populations. My question is whether this has been considered or what decisions have been made on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
(interpretation ends) Minister of Environment, Hon. Minister Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, every management issue related to caribou will be discussed, including all predators that depend on caribou. Wolves are part of the discussion in this regard.

Further, with respect to caribou and the possibility of transferring caribou to the island, I thought I had provided an answer by stating that all issues related to caribou will be discussed at the meeting. The Baffin Caribou Working Group that is involved in caribou management, which is now the name of this committee, will meet about these issues. They have dealt with this since last year and they have continued working on this issue up to now.

The next meeting is scheduled for next week here in Iqaluit and the focus will be entirely on caribou issues. In relation to the bounty on wolves, I'm sure it will also be discussed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 214 – 4(2): Expired Foods

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier this week, I received a return to oral question from the Minister of Health. The topic and question I had at the time was asking if there is a component of the Department of Health that checks on expired foods in stores in Nunavut.

According to the response that I got, it talks about inspection of established food premises that cook, store, and serve food. What I was looking for, and it

gives me also a description on best-before dates and actual expiration dates, is there a facet of the Department of Health that actually has the responsibility to make sure that retail stores that seem to be more accountable to their shareholders than their client base are serving fresh food? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I don't have the information in front of me, but I believe that the environmental health officers are able to, if requested, look into areas that he had just mentioned. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I understand correctly, the members of the general public, if they see expired food products on shelves in retail stores, can contact the Department of Health and have that retail store investigated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They can contact the Department of Health. Also, expired foods are the responsibility of a federal agency. It's called the Canada Food Inspection Agency and they are the organization responsible for outdated food, expiry and best-before [dates]. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware of representatives from the Canadian food inspection industry ever carrying out checks in Nunavut retail stores and, if so, in which communities did those inspections occur? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Health, Hon. Minister Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As far as I know, I believe they do regular checkups, but I can have my staff look into this and get back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

Question 215 – 4(2): ASIST Training

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I tried to ask some questions in relation to the ASIST program. However, I was told that Arctic College is responsible for that. Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College whether he knows how many staff persons are employed that have qualifications in this area. That is my first question. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. There are 700 who are registered to Arctic College and a number of student support assistants, school counsellors, custodian staff, principals, and vice-principals have been trained on *Uqaqatigiigluk!* There have been 400 who have received ASIST training in the Baffin, 167 in the Kivalliq, and 131 in the Kitikmeot. Those are the numbers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the answer. As it is very important to have our teaching staff training, outside of the teachers of the school, are there any other government departments aside from Education taking *Uqaqatigiigluk!*? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I may not be able to answer his question properly. However, we work with the Department of Health on that and there will be another training course held in January up to May of our calendar year. I can only respond to this question about training with that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I can also provide some information about the program called *Uqaqatigiigluk!* I will probably use that program myself if I have the opportunity. I would also want my colleagues to undertake this training.

However, I want to ask lastly about this matter. I believe an agreement exists between the Department of Health and your department about this program. How much is the total amount of the funds under these agreements for operating the program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Perhaps I can inform my colleague in this manner, as I don't have the exact figures available, but I will commit to providing that information after some research and perhaps I can even meet with him to provide the actual figures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. (interpretation ends) Item 7. (interpretation) Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. 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. Mr. Okalik.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 010 – 4(2): Expulsion from the Legislative Assembly of the Member for Uqqummiut – Notice

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, October 27, 2014, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Mr. Samuel Nuqingaq, Member for Uqqummiut, be immediately expelled from the Legislative Assembly and that the member's seat be declared vacant.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Motion 011 – 4(2): Extended Sitting Hours and Days – Notice

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, October 27, 2014, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the 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 fall 2014 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions. Mr. Savikataaq.

Motion 012 – 4(2): Extension of Review Period for Bill 1, Northern Employee Benefits Services Pension Plan Act – Notice

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, October 27, 2014, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, that the period for the standing committee to report Bill 1 back to the House be extended by a further 120 days.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Okalik.

Item 16: Motions

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent of my colleagues to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Okalik.

Motion 010 – 4(2): Expulsion from the Legislative Assembly of the Member for Uqqummiut

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues.

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, by virtue of parliamentary privilege, enjoys the sole prerogative to regulate its own proceedings and internal affairs, including the discipline of members;

AND WHEREAS sections 2 and 18 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provide that the Legislative Assembly has the power to discipline its members;

AND WHEREAS these powers include the authority to suspend or expel a member from the Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the Member for Uqqummiut has been disciplined by the Legislative Assembly on a number of occasions for his unacceptable conduct, including persistent absences from sittings of the House and meetings of its committees and caucuses without reasonable explanation;

AND WHEREAS the Member for Uqqummiut has had a number of opportunities to address his conduct;

AND WHEREAS the member's conduct has persisted;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly has determined that it is necessary, for the good of the public and in the interest of the Legislative Assembly, to expel the member from the

Legislative Assembly and to declare that the member's seat is vacant;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Mr. Samuel Nuqingaq, Member for Uqqummiut, be immediately expelled from the Legislative Assembly and that the member's seat be declared vacant.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of the serious nature of the motion that is before the House today, it is important that Nunavummiut, especially the people of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq, have the opportunity to hear the reasons for its introduction.

Mr. Speaker, one of the fundamental responsibilities that this legislature has in common with those in other Canadian jurisdictions is the responsibility to impose discipline when necessary on the members of the institution. This is not a duty that the Members of the Legislative Assembly take lightly and we take no pleasure in today's action. However, the Legislative Assembly has determined that this action is necessary.

I will take this opportunity to outline the reasons for why my colleagues and I have reached this decision.

Mr. Speaker, as you are very much aware, the one-year anniversary of the last general election will take place next week.

Over the past year, far too much of this legislature's time has been spent on the matter of the unacceptable conduct of the Member for Uqqummiut.

As members will recall, the Management and Services Board of the Legislative Assembly imposed sanctions on the Member for Uqqummiut in November of last year following his absences from orientation meetings and portions of the Leadership Forum.

At that time, Mr. Speaker, you publicly urged the member to reflect on his actions and his obligations to his constituents. However, Mr. Speaker, the member's behaviour persisted, and the House formally voted to suspend the member in March of this year. In May of this year, the member was again suspended by way of a formal motion.

The terms of that motion noted that the member had entered into a counselling program at a residential treatment facility, and the member himself has publicly acknowledged his issues with substance abuse.

Our fall sitting convened earlier this week. As the member's most recent suspension had ended, a motion was passed to formally appoint him to a number of standing committees. However, the member's behaviour has persisted throughout this week, and the patience of this Legislative Assembly is now at an end.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of Uqqummiut are entitled to be represented by a member who attends the sittings of the House and the meetings of its committees and caucuses. The residents of Uqqummiut are entitled

to be represented by a member who is committed to his responsibilities and who does not bring the House into disrepute by his actions.

Mr. Speaker, our approach to discipline in this matter has been progressive in nature. The member's first contravention was met with financial sanctions, and an encouragement from you to act in a manner befitting his office. This simply did not work, and the House has had to progressively increase the severity of its actions while providing several opportunities for the member to address the personal issues that have led to his conduct.

Mr. Speaker, the passage of today's motion will result in the member's seat being declared vacant.

Under territorial legislation, a by-election will be held within six months, and I know that your office will be in close contact with the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer to determine a date for the by-election.

As has happened with past vacancies in the Legislative Assembly, I have every confidence that one of my hon. colleagues will take on the responsibility of working informally with the municipal leadership in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq to bring urgent issues to the attention of the government.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to close by again noting that no Member of the Legislative Assembly takes any pleasure in today's actions, as necessary as they are. However, it is in the best interest of the people of this territory that we take such actions when they are necessary, which is why I am calling on all of my

colleagues to support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) To the motion. I have no more names on my list. (interpretation) I'm sorry. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to request a recorded vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) A recorded vote has been requested. All those in favour, please stand and sit down when I call your name.

Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Mike.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Enook.

Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Hickers.

Ms. Angnakak.

(interpretation) Thank you.

Mr. Shooyook.

(interpretation ends) Opposed.

Mr. Joanasie.

(interpretation) Thank you.

(interpretation ends) The motion is carried.

Mr. Sammurtok.

Second Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister Mr. Peterson.

Ms. Ell.

Bill 05 – Write-off of Assets Act, 2013-2014 – Second Reading

Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 5, *Write-off Act, 2013-2014*, be read for the second time.

All those opposed, please stand and sit down when I call your name.

In favour, 20. The motion has been unanimously carried.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the write-off of assets in accordance with sections 24 and 82 of the *Financial Administration Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014 – Second Reading

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 5 is referred to the standing committee.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 4, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014*, be read for the second time.

Second Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister Mr. Peterson.

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.

Bill 06 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2014-2015 – Second Reading

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 6, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2014-2015*, 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, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 6 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister Mr. Peterson.

**Bill 07 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Operations &
Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2014-
2015 – Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 7, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2014-2015*, 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, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 7 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister Mr. Peterson.

**Bill 09 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
5, 2013-2014 – Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 9, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 5, 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 (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 9 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 15-minute break.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 10:58 and
Committee resumed at 11:17*

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

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good morning, colleagues. Good morning, Nunavummiut who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio. Welcome to your Committee of the Whole.

I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of the capital appropriation for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, followed by the Department of Education, if time permits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Does the committee agree that we continue with the review of the capital appropriation for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2015-2016 – Economic
Development and Transportation
– Consideration in Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree to bring in Minister Kuksuk's witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Kuksuk, for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I say "good morning" to my fellow Nunavummiut. Good morning.

With me this morning to my right is my Deputy Minister, Pauloosie Suvega, and to my left is (interpretation ends) Assistant Deputy Minister Jim Stevens. (interpretation) Thank you very much.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Welcome to the House, Mr. Suvega and Mr. Stevens. I would like to remind you that we were reviewing the 2015-16 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation and we left off on page K-3. We ran out of time when we were dealing with that page and we were going to resume starting with Mr. Joanasie. At this time, Mr. Joanasie, I give you the floor, if you still remember the questions you had. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to our audience listening on the radio and watching the televised proceedings.

I asked on Wednesday about the GPS final approach. They were going to use over \$100,000 for the Kimmirut Airport, but they haven't used that yet. Can the minister or his officials explain when this will go ahead? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. For the question about his community, I would like Mr. Stevens to respond to that, please. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is proposed in the fiscal 2015-16 year to conduct the initial preliminary planning for an airport relocation in Kimmirut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. After they do the study, will they be talking with their fellow ministers? This issue about the Kimmirut Airport has been talked about for a very long time and even previous MLAs representing Kimmirut have been trying to get this to move forward. I would like to know if he will be working with other ministers after the study to see what else can be done or to get the work done because the people of Kimmirut have been asking for this for a very long time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When this issue comes up in cabinet, we will deal with it. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's part of the capital estimates where it says that there will be planning done in the Transportation Division to look at the next 20 years. We expect that everybody will know our situation now after that.

I would like to ask about Cape Dorset. There is a little mountain right by the airport. Has your department looked into this or are there any plans to look into that in the future? I represent both communities and both of their airports need to have better safety equipment because it is sometimes dangerous when it's not clear outside and when there are hills and mountains involved. I hope that was clear, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are many communities in Nunavut that are being looked at right now. The communities to which you are referring are part of the communities that will be looked at and considered. I would like Mr. Stevens to complete my response, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can advise that the airport in Cape Dorset is certified by Transport Canada and as we move forward with GPS approaches, obviously, the amount of safety afforded to operators using that airport will be enhanced. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for answering my question. I'm asking these questions due to the fact that it can be dangerous in the two communities that I represent because they are in hilly areas and we don't want our airports to be in a dangerous site. I would like the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation and his department to keep considering the two communities I represent when prioritizing the airports.

I would like to move on to MVIS. I have asked questions about that in the House previously and the minister provided an explanation in the spring on March 10 in response to my question about identification cards, cameras that are used, general IDs, and other IDs like driver's licences. However, my constituents have had problems with this when trying to get passports. Whenever they try to get passports, they keep being told that they don't have the proper photographic equipment anymore.

I would like the minister to explain the new passport photo rules. I do know that this is managed by the federal government, but I would like to know if the new system that you're putting up for the driver's licences and IDs can also be used for passport photographs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Yes, part of what you're saying is true. We don't deal with passports on our own

and they always want to have a photograph along with the passport application. There are some companies in some communities that have professional photographers that do that. I don't know if the new system will be able to accommodate passport photos, but my Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, can add to my response, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now, there are a lot of times that the pictures taken for passport photos are not approved. We will always push for improvement for these things and we have tried to initiate improvements working with the hamlets, communities, and also with the GLOs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the minister or his deputy has the ability to answer me in relation to the new computer systems that will be acquired by the Government of Nunavut, will the new system have the ability to take passport photos? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The member has asked this question originally and I thought that Mr. Suvega had answered it. I personally don't have that information in terms of whether our new system would have the ability to

take passport approved photos, so I would like Mr. Suvega to respond, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, Hon. Minister. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The federal government usually has concerns about this area. Naturally, we want that system to have the ability for passport photos to be taken. However, in the event that it won't be, we will continue to push the federal government in this area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. We are on page K-3. Following my list of names, Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you think my question is not appropriate, you can stop me. However, this is in relation to the airports. The airport preparation in Iqaluit has taken a great chunk of the money of the department. I think the minister knows that many waiting areas in Nunavut communities are quite old and quite dated.

I would like to ask the minister: has there been absolutely no planning done with respect to the upgrading or replacement of airports in the Arctic, especially where the community's airport waiting areas are no longer appropriate? That is my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Yes, this question is permissible. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I believe you are referring to the terminal buildings and they are fully documented, such as when they were built and when they were renovated or when they are due for renovations. Terminals in Nunavut are in various stages of age. With respect to his question, we have identified their expected life spans and the times at which they should be replaced, particularly those terminals that are especially old. However, if I understood his question, yes, they are fully documented for the purpose of renovation and/or replacement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. Now, in the communities that you have identified, do you have the list of communities that are slated to receive them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. These will be listed in the 20-year airport terminal replacement and airport improvement plan. However, if the member is requesting a specific terminal, perhaps Mr. Stevens can provide a bit more detail in terms of the breakdown to the specific community. Thank you.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, Hon. Minister. (interpretation) Before I allow him to respond, I would like to remind the members, as we are reminded by the

Speaker, that if you have any cellphones, please have it on silent mode because it's distracting when there is someone speaking and we can really hear them. If you have a cellphone, please keep it on silent mode. Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The 20-year capital needs that the minister alluded to contains basically about four or five core items. It lists the air terminal buildings requiring replacement. It references when runways should be resurfaced. It also lists the capital equipment requirements for each airport, along with airfield lighting features. All those things are rolled into the capital plan. As the lifecycle of that asset is extinguished, we hopefully put that on the capital plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question was not answered. Have you already identified which communities' terminals are slated to be replaced? Could I be provided a specific answer? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to respond to his question properly. In terms of his community, the community of Repulse Bay is included in the replacement schedule of the 20-year plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. This being the case, I'll be indicating that we are in a hazardous situation because we have a very tiny terminal.

In fact, even when teachers, just as an example, need to... . Every time teachers have to leave, for example, some of them have to wait outside in the wintertime, let's say, in the Christmas season when everybody wants to go on holidays.

Because of the tiny space of our terminal, some people have to wait outside in mid-winter. When there is a situation like this, when can my community expect to see a new airport terminal so that their safety is assured? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I indicated a few moments ago about the replacement of various terminals in specific communities which would be prioritized, renovated, or replaced, and so on. I cannot specifically tell him about the specific year yet or the specific time and month or day. However, I indicated that it will be replaced in the future. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that response. However, is the replacement schedule close or is there nothing to expect in the next fiscal year?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is my final question.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In relation to his question, it will be in the capital plan relating to the larger capital cost. It will be included in there, in the higher bracket area. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. We are on page K-3. Following my list of names, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As the minister is aware, Transport Canada provides standards by which runway specifications can be determined in relation to their suitability for aircraft that travel through an airport. Can the minister indicate if the current airport in Baker Lake meets Transport Canada's standards in terms of length and width of its runway? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Stevens to answer, if you do not mind, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer to that is yes, it is certified by Transport Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister indicate how his department monitors aircraft and airports in Nunavut to ensure that weight and wingspan of aircraft do not exceed runway capacity? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Stevens to elaborate on it in detail. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't do any direct monitoring *per se*. What we do is publish the runway lengths and navigational or aeronautical nav aids available to operators. That is provided through the *Canada Flight Supplement*. It's expected that operators using our airports reference that. There is also the one-off where we do provide CARS service where an operator could verify the actual operational status or the current limits on that runway. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister is aware, Transport Canada standards for longitudinal slopes of runways require that the slope computed by dividing the difference between the maximum and minimum elevation along the runway centre line by runway length shall not

exceed 1.5 percent where the runway length is over 1,200 feet in length. However, Transport Canada further recommends that the slope does not exceed 1 percent.

Can the minister provide the current computed slope of Baker Lake's runway? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Before I allow the minister to respond, I would like to remind the members that we're dealing with the capital estimates. The question you are asking is almost outside of the capital estimates or I can even say that it's outside of the capital estimates that we are discussing, but I'll allow the question to proceed. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In relation to his question, (interpretation ends) I'll take that as notice (interpretation) and I will undertake to make a return to that question at a later date. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Hon. Minister, I don't think you could take that as notice. You can maybe advise the member that you will get back to him on a later date. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Yes, I'm sorry. That's exactly what I said. We can provide a response to his question later. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

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

would like to make further comments on the capital expenditures in the future. Thank you for that information.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister indicate what actions his department is currently taking to address this level of slope to meet Transport Canada's recommendations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Once again, your question is almost outside of the capital estimates and I can disallow it, but since it is Friday, I'll allow the minister to respond. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I have stated to the question, we will provide that information (interpretation ends) at a later time (interpretation) in response within our department, as it will be researched. Thank you.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, Hon. Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. Mr. Chairman, earlier this year, the Legislative Assembly approved \$471,000 in capital carryovers for funding for airport improvements in Baker Lake. Information provided by the department indicated that the construction of these improvements were scheduled to be completed in December of this year. Can the minister indicate if these improvements are currently on schedule? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the question regarding the air terminal and improvements of the terminal, the works that have been conducted to replace fuel and other works that are conducted, as well as the repainting of the exterior of the building, we will continue to improve the terminal building. Thank you very much.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Information from the department also indicates that these improvements are required to meet the needs of increasing volumes of traffic that go through Baker Lake's airport. I recognize that this project is eligible for third party funding through the Building Canada Fund and stimulus funding.

The minister may recall a number of years ago that the municipality was in the works to finalize a joint funding agreement between a number of companies and organizations to complete substantial upgrades to Baker Lake's airport. Some improvements that were considered for that project were runway expansions, construction of a conveyor belt in the terminal, and other changes to improve the capacity and efficiency of air transportation services in the community. Unfortunately, the project fell through due to a number of reasons.

However, the community continues to receive high volumes of traffic due to the fact that Baker Lake holds a number of mining and exploration companies that are constantly travelling through.

Can the minister indicate if his department will be considering any additional projects for Baker Lake's airport in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding the comments that I have made earlier to the question, I will give this to Mr. Stevens, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there are a number of improvements in the 20-year capital needs slated for Baker Lake, one of which includes the eventual replacement of the air terminal building. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response to my question. I would like to ask another question. Some of my colleagues had asked about MVIS. However, Baker Lake is one of the largest communities in Nunavut.

We have a GLO in the community who is working as well as who provides photographs, but the community itself is not sure as to who to approach in regard to getting a photograph. Is there a capital plan that will be providing adequate cameras? Has that been identified within

your department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. MVIS is provided to a community as well as the equipment is outdated. For that reason, the provision of an adequate camera will be looked into, but to the question, in each community. . . . I will have Mr. Suvega to answer the question. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are broken down into five items. There will be an RFP put out to provide information as to what type of cameras are needed in the community and we will provide a technician, as some of the computers require a licence to operate it within the government departments. On top of that additional item is a camera, which is in the planning stage of providing that camera within the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Within the smaller communities, as they are isolated, they are not provided a camera in order to take photographs and they waited for a long time. One of my colleagues raised the question. Before the cameras are purchased, as we do need to be provided passport photos from the federal government, would that

be able to be in place? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the cameras that provide passport photographs, which are required to be available in the community, I'm not really sure about that, so I would like Mr. Suvega to respond to that question, if it's okay with you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information that is passed on by members will be required, which will be provided to the independent companies or to the hamlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Pursuant to Rule 6(1), I now recognize the clock and I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

Thank you, Minister and your officials. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

When we resume our meeting, Mr. Mikkungwak will be asking questions first.

Speaker: Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Enook.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 8 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Is there a seconder? Mr. Okalik. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that there's a meeting at 1:30 in the Tuktu Boardroom of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts.

Orders of the Day for October 27:

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
 - Motion 11 – 4(2)
 - Motion 12 – 4(2)
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 4
 - Bill 6
 - Bill 7
 - Bill 8
 - Bill 9
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) This House stands adjourned until Monday, October 27, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 12:02*

