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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk
(Netsilik)
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, October 30, 2014

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell, Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanase, 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 10:02

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Can you say the opening prayer, please, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning. Welcome to the House, members, ministers, and my fellow Nunavummiut. Going to the orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 070 – 4(2):
Certificate of Educational
Leadership in Nunavut**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues and Nunavummiut, especially the people of Igloolik.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to my colleagues about the newly revised

Certificate of Educational Leadership in Nunavut program (CELN).

This November, the Department of Education and the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) will launch a revised version of the CELN program. The program consists of five graduate-level university courses designed to provide teachers and principals with the history, knowledge, and skills needed to provide culturally-based, responsive leadership in our schools.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the *Education Act* requires principals and vice-principals to take the Educational Leadership Program as part of their [certification]. Before 2011, accredited and non-accredited leadership training was offered to principals and teachers over the course of two years, with courses taking place each summer for two-week periods.

Beginning this school year, the revised Certification of Educational Leadership in Nunavut program will offer courses in November 2014 in Iqaluit and in February 2015 during Professional Improvement Week in Rankin Inlet. Sessional instructors for the Certification of Educational Leadership in Nunavut courses are hired by the University of Prince Edward Island and must have extensive experience teaching in Nunavut.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the revised CELN will feature two foundation courses on leadership for Nunavut schools. There will also be three specialized courses on literacy leadership, including a focus on reading, coaching, and family engagement. Registration for these

courses has exceeded our initial expectation and more sessions may be planned for later in the school year.

We want to help educators who are aspiring leaders develop their leadership skills. The courses in the revised CELN and future specializations, such as numeracy and inclusive education, will support their advancement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 071 – 4(2):
Baffin Island Caribou
Management**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Both Inuit knowledge and recent scientific information are telling us that the number of caribou on Baffin Island is critically low.

Results from an island-wide aerial survey conducted earlier this year estimates the number of caribou on Baffin Island at approximately 5,000 animals, down from well over 100,000 in the early 1990s.

(interpretation ends) These scientific results are consistent with social science research and community consultations conducted in all 10 Baffin Island communities. Harvesters, elders, and community members have told us that caribou are becoming increasingly difficult to find.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, caribou are an extremely valuable resource to

Nunavummiut and an important part of the regional ecosystem. My Department of Environment is committed to working with all co-management partners to promote the recovery of caribou on Baffin Island.

(interpretation ends) The Department of Environment, the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, and NTI are holding a workshop November 3 to 4 in Iqaluit to bring together representatives from all 10 Baffin hunters and trappers organizations, elders, and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board members to plan a way forward for caribou so that our grandchildren can benefit from their recovery and ongoing sustainable co-management.

(interpretation) Short- and long-term solutions to conservation and management challenges will be considered in order to come up with an approach that works for both the communities and the caribou. It is not going to be easy and recovery will take many years, possibly many decades.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, our goal is to revitalize Baffin Island caribou in keeping with the co-management system (interpretation) outlined in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. I look forward to updating you in our next sitting on the successful outcomes from this workshop. I wish them success in the meeting in Iqaluit this coming week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Ms. Ell.

**Minister's Statement 072 – 4(2):
Embrace Life Day**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. September 10 was Embrace Life Day, also known as World Suicide Prevention Day.

Mr. Speaker, this year, the International Association for Suicide Prevention promoted a “Cycle around the Globe” event. The Department of Health’s territorial mental health team took that idea and challenged Nunavut communities to come together to walk and cycle the distance of the Northwest Passage. In partnership with the Embrace Life Council, community teams across the territory were able to promote the importance of being connected with family, friends, elders, and co-workers and guide Nunavummiut to their local mental health resources.

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Coast Guard also assisted in determining that from Pond Inlet to the Amundsen Gulf west of Kugluktuk. The distance of the Northwest Passage that falls within Nunavut spans 2,700 kilometres. Initially, this distance seemed like a lofty goal. However, in the end, more than 6,000 Nunavummiut connected and came together to walk and cycle over 17,000 kilometres. Not only did Nunavummiut conquer the Northwest Passage, but they walked and cycled almost halfway around the world.

Mr. Speaker, we have all been touched by suicide. I believe it is for this reason that so many Nunavummiut joined on September 10 to celebrate life. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their participation and to congratulate the communities of

Chesterfield Inlet, Igloolik, and Cambridge Bay that were the per capita regional champions.

Mr. Speaker, being connected to our loved ones, our community, and the world around us is the key to suicide prevention. This event is a strong reminder of just how important this is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers’ Statements. I have no more names on my list. Members’ Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 3: Members’ Statements

**Member’s Statement 157 – 4(2):
Ministerial Visit to Baker Lake**

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to thank a number of ministers for their recent visit to my constituency this summer during their Kivalliq tour.

Mr. Speaker, Baker Lake was delighted to have hosted (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Kuksuk, Hon. Minister Quassa, Hon. Minister Sammurtok, and Hon. Minister Ell (interpretation) for a day. I trust that they enjoyed their experience and felt warmly welcomed in our beautiful community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight some of the realities that I hope we can work together in the near future to address.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, ministers will recall seeing with their

own eyes that Baker Lake's airport infrastructure is inadequate. I have said before in this House that we need a refreshed terminal building with accessibility features. As well, a runway expansion and instrument package update for the GPS system is urgently needed.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly believe that we need a new health centre to serve the people of Baker Lake. We have a large growing population, with a significant number of elders.

Mr. Speaker, I am also very concerned about the state of the Martha Talirug Centre, one of the oldest buildings in Baker Lake, which is operated by the community hospice society. The centre is simply not equipped to accommodate the elders in my community and the contribution agreement that funds its operations needs to be reviewed. Mr. Speaker, members will recall that I have raised my concerns about the centre in this House on a number of occasions.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? (interpretation) I don't hear any nays. Please proceed, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues very much.

(interpretation ends) *Uqaqtittijii*, as I stated yesterday, there is an urgent need for a new school in Baker Lake. Students of Jonah Amitnaaq Secondary School

had their classes in the community hall from the end of September until just last week due to a fuel spill. With education being one of the priorities identified in *Sivumut Abluqta*, I do hope that this is taken very seriously.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen great examples where working together has resulted in positive outcomes for Nunavutmiut, the people we represent and serve.

Mr. Speaker, it is one thing to rise in the House, make statements, and ask oral questions, but it is another thing to show hon. members in person the issues that I advocate for on behalf of my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that ministers were able to see first hand the unique realities that my constituents face and, again, I know that gaps can, indeed, be closed if we work together.

Mr. Speaker, I will be asking questions to respective ministers at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 158 – 4(2): HTO Sealift in Arctic Bay

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Nunavut.

I rise today to bring up an issue that we mentioned in September. This was the first time that a small ship came into our community. I believe the name of the ship was Kivuiq.

The ship was bringing frozen, southern foods. There were runners for qamutiik, crawl spaces, and equipment that were not directed at businesses, but they were for the hunters and trappers organization. After that event, the next morning, they opened a new store and so many shoppers were in there that there was hardly any room to move.

It is something that we had thought of, an idea from an individual who had passed away. When we saw the ship, the name of the ship was Tommy Kilabuk. Tommy Kilabuk was a member of the hunter and trappers organization and he had wanted to see something like this happening in our community. We also saw the contribution of this individual, Tom Kilabuk, during that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize some visitors in the Gallery who are social services workers in Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, we have a statutory core training program being held right now in Iqaluit. I would like to introduce the participants, child protection workers from the Kitikmeot

region. When I say your name, please stand up.

Ann Rose Kerkovius, Cambridge Bay Regional Manager.

>>Applause

Linda Hunter, Gjoa Haven.

>>Applause

Danny Lajoie, Kugluktuk.

>>Applause

Denise Basque, Taloyoak, the best place in Nunavut.

>>Applause

Kivalliq region, Veronica Angotingoar, Whale Cove.

>>Applause

Linda Mapping, Arviat.

>>Applause

Iqaluit, Jessica Shabtai, Supervisor.

>>Applause

(interpretation) This individual can speak Inuktitut very well, Nancy Tagalik

>>Applause

Coby O'Neil.

>>Applause

Katrina Kaiser.

>>Applause

(interpretation) They are from Iqaluit.

From the Baffin region, Maggie Amagoalik from Hall Beach.

>>Applause

I have met this person when he was a student, Bobby Kadlutsiak from Igloolik.

>>Applause

Betty Mohabair, Kimmirut.

>>Applause

Manet Ferber, Pond Inlet.

>>Applause

Cassandra Yantha, Cape Dorset.

>>Applause

Alan Morrison, Cape Dorset.

>>Applause

(interpretation) Instructors are Christian Hathas, who is across from me.

>>Applause

And Sid Parlor.

>>Applause

Also just started working as a family violence specialist is Margaret Walmer.

>>Applause

Please welcome them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to be first, but the minister beat me to it.

I have a constituent here too that I would like to recognize, Nancy Tagalik. As the minister indicated, she is a social worker here in Iqaluit recently. She is bilingual and that's really something to be proud of for Iqaluit because we haven't had a bilingual social worker for a long time. Please help me welcome her in the House. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like one of the ministers that rarely recognizes people in the House, I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Gjoa Haven, Linda Hunter. Welcome to the House.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These individuals were recognized already, but I would like to welcome everybody to the Gallery.

From my community of Igloolik, I would also like to recognize Bobby

Kadlutsiak. They have attended courses. He was living in Cambridge Bay for quite a while taking courses and I'm sure that there are other individuals who go to other communities. He has now returned to Igloodik and he has been able to apply his training in our community. I would like to welcome Bobby Kadlutsiak to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize a person from Amittuq, Maggie Amagoalik from Hall Beach. Welcome to the Gallery.

(interpretation ends) Item 6.

(interpretation) Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 254 – 4(2): Plebiscite on Alienation of Municipal Lands

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, one of the announcements that we made at our Full Caucus Retreat in Kugluktuk earlier this year concerned the holding of a plebiscite in 2016 concerning the issue of municipal lands. In this plebiscite, Nunavummiut will be asked to consider the question of whether the current restrictions applying to the disposal of municipal lands should continue. Can the minister indicate where his department is at in planning

for this plebiscite? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My department is starting to go through the planning process regarding the 2016 plebiscite that will be held on the issue of municipal lands. We are currently planning and we will also be doing a consultation tour to the communities to make sure that they have all the information. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate at what time of the year the plebiscite is anticipated to be held? I'm hoping that it wouldn't be like in July because most people won't be in the communities. 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. The date has not been set yet, but we will be working with (interpretation ends) Elections Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just trying to find out what has been done here. Can the minister describe what kinds of information will be provided to Nunavummiut over the next year that will help people to make informed decisions about this important issue? 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. (interpretation ends) Before I answer her last question there, CGS is recommending that the plebiscite take place in April of 2016.

Going to your last question there, the question that's going to be asked during this plebiscite is, "Do you want your municipal council to be able to sell municipal lands?" The information that we will be providing to the communities will outline the differences between whatever the result may be. It will outline the differences that each municipality will determine. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Question 255 – 4(2): Nurse Practitioner Position in Pond Inlet

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Pond Inlet and our fellow Nunavummiut.

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

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, since the beginning of this fiscal year, Pond Inlet has been fortunate enough to have a nurse practitioner based in the community. This position has been invaluable and has saved the government thousands of dollars in medical travel costs.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the Department of Health to continue in its efforts to provide more health services at the local level, such as dentists, doctors and other professionals. It saves money, it allows for continuity of service, and it is better for the overall health and well-being of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that the nurse practitioner project will be terminated this week, suddenly, and well before the yearlong commitment has been met. Can the minister clarify what factors contributed to the decision to terminate this project and clearly explain how this decision was made? 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. Thank you to my colleague for asking that question. I don't have the details for all of the communities in Nunavut in front of me all the time. I'm telling my colleague that I will check into this. If that is the situation, I will look into it.

In Pond Inlet, we have eight nurses and six nurses are full time. We understood

in August that the two positions will be made available to fill the full compliment of eight nurses on staff. Right now, they have three temporary workers.

Maybe that nurse practitioner position was held by a temporary person, but I will check into this and get back to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I find it interesting that when questions are asked on various programs, like the newly revised medical travel program, for example, the minister stresses that her department needs enough time, at least a year, to evaluate the program's effectiveness.

My question is: can the minister explain why a project such as the nurse practitioner project in Pond Inlet, which was funded for a full year, is being terminated halfway through its implementation? Who determined that the position was no longer effective and how did they evaluate its effectiveness? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. I understand that you're talking about the nurse practitioner position. The funding for that position was set to last until October 31. They are trying to find more funding to continue that position.

We have been doing financial planning for the larger communities to add staff to them with a nurse practitioner. We're trying to set this up. This program was supposed to be working in this fiscal year. We expect that the finances will be set up to the end of the fiscal year, which is the end of March.

We are planning and working together to make sure that the nurse practitioner position can stay in the community because we have seen how effective these positions are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is no secret that the Department of Health struggles to recruit staff and meet health service needs in our communities. It is, therefore, not clear why the department would initiate a project that meets staffing needs, is cost effective, and, by all accounts, is very successful, only to pull the plug before evaluating its effectiveness.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask: what was the decision based on where this very important position is decided to be ineffective when the funding has already been approved for 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. I thank the member for that question. Sometimes there is a lot of bureaucratic paperwork that needs to be done and I apologize if it had been

set to October 31. That was an error. It's supposed to be set up to the end of March. We're planning to continue this to the end of March for the larger communities to make sure that the larger communities have a position like this and our plans will continue on this because they are effective. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 256 – 4(2): Government Revenues from Property Taxes

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Baker Lake and Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance.

Earlier this week, I asked some questions to the Minister of Community and Government Services concerning the issue of property taxes. The minister suggested that one of my questions would be better put to the Minister of Finance, so I'm sure that he has the facts at his fingertips.

Mr. Speaker, the government's most recent budget indicated that it expects to raise \$3.1 million in property taxes and school levies during the 2014-15 fiscal year.

However, the recent increase in the regional base rates for developed parcels has resulted in increases in the assessed values of properties across Nunavut. Can the Minister of Finance indicate what the

total increase in property tax revenues is expected to be as a result of this change? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. I was anticipating this question, so I had the information at my fingertips. The increase will be about \$1.3 million higher than 2013-14. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier this week, I spoke about the need to harmonize a number of matters regarding the GN's programs and services. Although the Minister and Department of CGS have certain responsibilities under the *Property Assessment and Taxation Act*, other responsibilities, including the setting of the mill rate, fall under the responsibility of the Minister and Department of Finance. Can the Minister of Finance describe how the two departments work together to ensure a harmonious approach to the issue of property taxes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of CGS and I have a harmonious relationship.

As the CGS minister said, it has been 10 years since there was a property value

assessment. The last one was in 2004. They completed their 10-year assessment. The values went up on properties over the years, higher underlying values.

The Department of Finance, of course, sets the mill rates. We didn't increase the mill rates for 2014; the mill rates stayed the same. When the property values increased, we just applied the existing mill rates and of course, the property tax value assessments increased. I should point out that it is not a very significant amount. It adds about \$100 per year to the property tax that people have to pay outside of Iqaluit. I think, on average, it's about \$264. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his responses. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the Department of Finance has set up a process for GN employees who live outside of Iqaluit to pay their property taxes through payroll deductions. I applaud efforts to make life more convenient for our residents. Can the minister indicate what other steps the government is taking in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure I fully understood the question. If it's just related to paying your property taxes, of course, our GN employees can do it through the process he has described. The only other way I

can think of is if you get your invoice in the mail, then you would write a cheque and pay the Government of Nunavut or if there's a local office for the Department of Finance, I believe you can go into the Department of Finance and pay there as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

Question 257 – 4(2): Swimming Pool for Repulse Bay

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to Minister Sammurток.

I have been directing issues that have been requested by my constituents for a long time relating to a swimming pool. I have asked this question before in the Second Assembly and we have not seen one iota of anything resembling a pool. My question is: have they given this any consideration whatsoever? It would be of great use to the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurток (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have heard the member's question before. Thusly, I can answer that the communities can put priorities on their own integrated community sustainability plans. Swimming pools could be included in that as a priority and then prioritize their request to the government. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have seen the priorities by the municipality and it has always been included year after year. It has been a priority for many years.

I wonder what the reason is, as a swimming pool has beneficial effects for the residents. Currently, people are swimming in lakes and occasionally drown. If the community had a local pool, with proper lifeguards, it would definitely alleviate the worry parents have when their children go swimming. I wonder how we can resolve this.

Perhaps the minister can elaborate on the reasons for the delay and the slow approval process. It is one of the most important needs of the community. 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. I agree with the member wholeheartedly that a community pool would be very useful and beneficial for the community. Swimming pools could have programs. However, as I stated before, if an actual request has been made by a municipality, the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee (interpretation) exists that could prioritize items of this nature and it would be dependent on the availability of financial resources. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Do I understand then that they don't consider this a priority at all, that the Nunavut Community Advisory Committee does not consider this a priority? It has been included in their annual capital requests. The minister does not consider that anything they could consider as a priority. 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. I can answer in this manner that we haven't received the decision from the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee. Once we have received it, we will find out soon. Thank you.

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

Question 258 – 4(2): Culturally Appropriate Support for Foster Care Providers

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

Mr. Speaker, I was recently contacted by a constituent who has some very serious concerns about social services and the lack of support for foster care. My constituent has been advised by the local social services worker that they will be

adapting policies and practices from Ontario when dealing with children in the social services system. This is very disturbing since already far too many children who are apprehended are sent to the south and away from their culture. We should not be adopting southern systems in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if she can explain why social services workers are using policies and procedures from a southern jurisdiction when all the studies and reports and the government's own legislation states that *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* must be taken into consideration when implementing the law. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, since the question is specific to an individual, I can't respond to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Actually, it is tied into the mandate of her department, which is what I was asking about.

However, I want to now direct this question to the minister, Mr. Speaker. It is extremely important that Nunavut's social workers receive the appropriate cultural and social awareness orientation. Can the minister clarify what kind of cultural orientation is provided to social workers who are hired from outside of Nunavut and how she ensures

that they provide social services appropriately? 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. My colleague wants to understand what type of Inuit cultural orientation the social workers receive. Earlier this morning when the social workers visited the Gallery, they were here taking training courses on child welfare issues. We also work with our colleagues at the Department of Culture and Heritage on Inuit societal values or *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* inclusion into the training program. That is the type of training that is offered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are many challenges facing foster parents and foster families when trying to provide a safe and caring environment for children who have been apprehended. Can the minister describe what kinds of culturally relevant programs and services are made available to foster families and how they can access them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague raises many questions about whether or not cultural training is offered to the foster parents. At least that is how I understood it.

When the social workers look to place children in foster care, they first look at the best possible solution, whether it is with the child's relatives or with foster parents. When foster parents request assistance from the social worker, they work to resolve the issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 259 – 4(2): Stopping Suicide

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

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, according to information provided by Nunavut's chief coroner and reported by the media earlier this month, over 50 children have committed suicide since 1999.

Can the minister describe what specific steps her department is taking to stop our children and youth from harming themselves and their families in this way? 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. Every suicide is a significant loss to our territory. This year, as of October 8, 2014, 20 people have died by suicide in Nunavut.

Health continues to work closely with and supports the partners it has, Embrace Life Council, Nunavut Tunngavik

Incorporated, the RCMP, and GN departments, such as Justice, Education, and Family Services, in the implementation of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan, which we extended for a year this summer. We are in the process of looking into what steps we have taken and how we can move forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Clearly, our government needs to be more proactive in addressing the mental health issues that are affecting our children and youth. Will the minister commit to training and hiring more mental health workers and other health workers who can focus on preventing suicide amongst our children? 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. As we know, we are currently also working on a mental health and addictions framework for action. In this process, there will be an implementation plan for the Nunavut Addictions and Mental Health Framework that was created in 2002 and have linkages to the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy. Health plans to finalize the framework for action during this current fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The children's group home in Rankin Inlet has been closed down. The facility will become a mental health transition house. Apparently, one of the reasons for changing the focus of services at this institution is because of the high rate of suicide in the region. Can the minister clarify whether there will be specialized services at this new facility to focus on youth suicide? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Expanding mental health service capacity in Nunavut is a good investment, which will result in reduced expenditures for out-of-territory services, such as improved outcomes for patients.

For the plan that we are moving forward as a department in proposing to re-profile the vacant children's group home in Rankin Inlet to a mental health residential treatment facility, this building will be expanding mental service capacity in Nunavut. There will be a residential mental health capacity and the patients that will be requiring psychiatric assessment and stabilization will be for everyone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 260 – 4(2): Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Last month, a meeting of the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table was held in Baker Lake. This forum brings together representatives from Nunavut and Manitoba to discuss issues of mutual concern to our jurisdictions.

Can the minister update the House today on the discussions that took place at last month's meeting in Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to my fellow Nunavummiut. I would also like to thank my colleague for the question.

Mr. Speaker, on September 18, they held a meeting for the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table in Baker Lake. They discussed various issues. Our department represented the Nunavut government. There were delegates from Manitoba as well. The mayors of the Kivalliq were included and they took part. People from Churchill also attended. We met and discussed various issues. Some members of the cabinet attended the round-table meeting.

My department attended the round-table meeting in Churchill, Manitoba, and these issues are still being discussed. They established a committee for the highway or hydro line. They worked on those issues and they updated each other. That's what the meeting was about in Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister will recall, I have consistently identified two issues that require attention: the development of a road between Manitoba and the Kivalliq and a hydroelectric power transmission line between Manitoba and the Kivalliq. Can the minister describe what progress has been made on these issues? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, they discuss various issues. In regard to his question about a road between Manitoba and the Kivalliq and hydroelectric power transmission between Manitoba and the Kivalliq, we discussed those topics at the meeting. They did a feasibility study.

They hold round-table meetings annually with Manitoba and the Kivalliq. The responsibilities and work they have to do is increasing, so they had to discuss the details of managing and coordinating to the Government of Manitoba. Through the Nunavut government, we would provide funding. They have discussed

those matters. We continually discuss those matters every time we hold a round-table meeting. They will start dealing with that.

In regard to, for example, a winter road, we're looking at ways it would be more cost-effective compared to an all-weather road. We reviewed all those issues. Also in regard to energy, power lines from Manitoba to Nunavut transecting the Kivalliq region includes the various considerations we need to take. This includes the mining sector and their possible involvement.

There were many issues brought up for discussion. There will be a working group struck for that, as currently they are only dealing with the future road connecting Manitoba to Nunavut, which this government will be heavily involved in and we are on the committee. Furthermore, the hydroelectric power line issue will be sent to this committee, of which we are a part. We will be managing this as well.

My expectations are that a second round table will be held in Manitoba. If I recall the schedule correctly, I believe the Hudson Bay round-table meeting will be held in Winnipeg. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister that they're working on this. I would just like to ask the minister if, at the next meeting of the round table, the working group for the road and the working group for the power line are going to have a detailed

report with costs and a timeframe, whether either one of the projects are feasible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have realistic expectations about the matters the member asked about and of the issues being discussed by the Hudson Bay round-table delegates. They are extremely busy on these two issues. During the next meeting, we expect that the reports will be ready for presentation from them. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 261 – 4(2): Municipal Lands Plebiscite

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to delve a little bit deeper into one of the questions my colleague asked a little bit earlier. It's regarding the municipal land transfer plebiscite.

A little over a year ago, before I was an elected member, I brought the topic up at a City of Iqaluit public meeting and at the time, no one at the meeting was even aware that this plebiscite was an option and forthcoming to Nunavummiut.

I would like to ask the Minister of CGS and I have mentioned this to him in the past that with the land plebiscite with a 20-year window from the NLCA, we're

actually going into the 21st year before this plebiscite is going to occur. I have expressed a little bit of disappointment in the past that with the 15 years of the Government of Nunavut's existence, this wasn't on the radar a little bit sooner.

One of the things that concerned me was the wording that he said is going to be on the plebiscite with regard to allowing municipal lands to be sold. My question to the minister is: how is that process going to work? Members of the public who have leased their land, if they paid the land lease costs, that is there to recoup the capital costs from the municipalities to pay the land lease off.

If they're going to be selling the land, are residents who have property on lots with land leases going to have to pay anything over and above the legal land transfer title costs? 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. The officials from the Department of CGS responsible for this issue held a meeting from March 25 to 27, 2014 to initiate the planning towards the (interpretation ends) plebiscite (interpretation) on municipal lands. However, to date, we are still in consultations with the communities and we plan to tour the communities to ensure they are fully cognizant of the effects of this plebiscite on their operations. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I appreciate that there are ongoing consultations, the Government of Nunavut has had 15 years of existence to plan for this. How are the members of the public going to be given information so that they can make an educated and informed decision on whether to vote yes or no on it if the government doesn't even know the position that they're going to be promoting? I would like the minister to clarify that. 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. (interpretation ends) As I indicated earlier, our lands division in my department will be visiting all of the communities throughout Nunavut to ensure that everybody understands what this plebiscite entails. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the minister has that information and they're going to be travelling to communities to explain to hamlets, municipalities, and the City of Iqaluit what this plebiscite entails, maybe the minister could inform us right here what it entails. 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. I also thank the member for that question. I don't have the exact details of this plebiscite with me, but once I have the information provided to me, I will inform the member about the issue he asked about. Thank you.

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

Question 262 – 4(2): Economic Plans Following Mine Closure

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Several days ago, I asked several questions directed to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

The questions were based on my concern about the Meadowbank gold mine operated by Agnico-Eagle. It will eventually close, as we know of their mine closure plans. Since mining companies are not like governments and they operate on a 24-hour basis, work is constantly continuing on mining the deposit to ensure revenue flows in. Work continues at all hours, both day and night mining operations.

With respect to that issue, I would like to ask the minister if he has any new information about this mine to update us on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): I'm sorry, but I didn't hear which minister you're directing your question to.

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

question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. Mr. Speaker, what I can speak about today related to the member's question about the Meadowbank gold mine outside of Baker Lake is that the company's exploration division that drills to look for reserves has been looking ever since the mine was opened. They are mining for gold and exploring for more proven reserves.

With that, they have continued to explore the surrounding lands for any showings aside from their proven reserves. The company, Agnico-Eagle, had them exploring outside of the mine site. What I can tell the member is that there was an announcement this summer from Agnico-Eagle about a potential new reserve near Meadowbank, slightly north of the existing deposit, and they are continuing to explore it.

The Meadowbank mine life is still scheduled to end in 2017-18, when the mine closure phase will kick in. However, it was very good to hear about their finding another deposit extending the mine life, particularly for residents of Baker Lake who work at the mine. Additionally, that was welcome news throughout the Kivalliq region as workers come from all over to work at the Meadowbank gold mine.

That is what I can respond with in relation to the member's question. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In listening to the response, it is, indeed, a piece of great news, especially since many Inuit work at the mine, as employment is quite beneficial to the community, obviously.

Since the minister has been informed about the mine closure phase to commence at Meadowbank in 2017-18, although that is the current plan, with the new finding now, will this extend the life of the mine and does the minister know how much longer it will extend the mine life? That is what I now wish to understand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The announcement about the find didn't include the lifespan extension of the mine and this information has yet to be released by the mining company at Meadowbank, but they are continuing to explore and prove their reserves in that new showing.

If the new reserve is to be developed, it would trigger several mandatory requirements, such as going through the NIRB environmental process, and if it is approved to proceed, then they can start

working on the new reserve by following the regulatory requirements.

Nonetheless, as per my earlier statement about the planned closure for the year 2017-18, and it would have gone ahead, but due to the size of their new gold reserves at Meadowbank, they have come up with a preliminary estimate which hasn't been confirmed. We are hoping they will make an announcement after more work to prove this reserve. The preliminary estimate indicated that the lifespan of the mine could be extended possibly to 2022. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In listening to the information, if this potential will be developed at Meadowbank, it depends on some factors.

Although this new reserve seems to extend the life of the mine, if the reserve is, indeed, large enough and if it is high-grade ore, then they will look to develop the reserve. However, all mines have closure dates.

In the immediate future, will the Department of Economic Development and Transportation be requesting that a meeting be held in Baker Lake about the future closure of the Meadowbank mine?

Further, if there are strategic meetings on alternative sources of economic development for Baker Lake, then the local bodies can start planning for the closure.

Is this something the department has taken into consideration? That is what I want to understand now. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The member raised that issue several days ago. As I indicated in my response, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation has continued to develop plans in Baker Lake and for every Nunavut community related to economic development and we will continue to make this a priority. Additionally, the programs and services provided by my department will continue to be offered to every community. If we receive a request to attend... .

It is obvious that our government has plans related to the member's concern about the impacts of the closure of the mine and the need to have strategic plans prior to the closure, but that will include various other departments. Perhaps the entire government will have to take the closure into consideration and deal with the potential concerns of the community on this issue. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 263 – 4(2): Technical
Professionals Scholarship Program**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of CGS.

A few days ago, the Minister of CGS read out his Minister's Statement regarding the announcement of the recipients of this year's Technical Professional Studies Scholarship. It's a long name. Can the minister tell us what criteria for eligibility are used to apply under this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to my previous Minister's Statement the member referred to, I don't seem to have a copy in front of me. However, I will look into the matter and once I have the information, I can pass that to my colleague who asked that question. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll try my second question. It's about the same program. I'm wondering if the minister knows how the successful applicants are chosen. 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. (interpretation ends) My understanding is that there's a committee from the educational institution and also from my department as well that looks at the applicants and decides which applicants would be awarded those scholarships. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to receiving that information to confirm.

My last question is: once the students who have been successful applicants have completed his or her studies, are there any requirements for the student to commit to a number of years working for the GN? 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. (interpretation ends) Of course, our hope is that these students will return to Nunavut, whether they work in the government or in the private sector. That would be their choice. However, we hope, as a government, that they will return to Nunavut and become contributing citizens to our economy. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

**Question 264 – 4(2): Baffin Island
Caribou Management**

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to question the Minister of Environment on his Minister's Statement from today.

In his statement, he says that Baffin Island caribou used to be well over 100,000 and now they're approximately 5,000, which is a decline of 95 percent. He also stated that they want to have a plan to move forward so that our grandchildren can benefit from the recovery. He admits that the recovery may take many years and possibly decades, but he is committed to revitalizing the Baffin Island caribou.

I'm aware that on November 3 and 4, they're having caribou meetings. Is the total ban on caribou hunting on Baffin Island on the table? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. With respect to the matter the member raised in his question, I can respond with this answer: no, I don't support that recommendation. If I understood the gist of his question about the need for a total ban on caribou, at this time, what I can state is that I can't support this idea. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just for clarity then, caribou hunting will continue on Baffin Island. That's part of the recovery plan, but hunting will still be permitted no matter what plan they come with. 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. This matter will also be part of the deliberations in the upcoming week. At that meeting, the delegates will be seriously considering their options related to caribou management here on Baffin Island. Once the meeting wraps up, we will have a better idea of what action items are needed within the Baffin Island caribou management process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On my first question, the minister stated that a total ban of hunting is not on the table. I just asked the minister how the caribou are expected to recover. With the hunting going at the same rate, is there going to be a restriction then or are we just going to continue hunting them as they are today? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Actually, I didn't state that a proposed ban on caribou hunting wasn't part of

the deliberations. I didn't say that and I want it clearly understood. This is one of the options under consideration, and this is what I am stating here. The committee will consider all options related to caribou management and the reason why I can't provide any details at this time is that the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement has provisions related to this and we are following them to the letter. There is no way other than through the process laid out in it.

Also, we have to reconcile the government research data as well as *Inuit Qaujimagajatuqangit*, and to engage our hunters so they can share their knowledge. That also includes the HTOs within the Baffin region. After these organizations and delegates have conducted their work and provided their recommendations, my department will have some serious considerations to review and make their decisions on.

However, what I want clearly understood here is that the total ban on caribou hunting and whether it is part of the deliberations is something I can't reveal. Nevertheless, what I can state is that prior to the completion of the meeting next week that will provide recommendations, I don't support the idea of a total ban. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Members will note that the time for question period has expired and we will proceed to Item 7. Item 7. Written Questions. 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. Mr. Hickes.

Item 12: Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters*

Committee Report 006 – 4(2): Report on the Review of the 2012-2013 Annual Report and 2014-2018 Corporate Plan of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present the report of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the 2012-13 annual report and 2014-18 corporate plan of the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2012-13 annual report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 19, 2014. The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014-18 corporate plan was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on June 12, 2014.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation plays a significant role in Nunavut's economy and the day-to-day lives of residents.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's current corporate plan anticipates that it will raise approximately \$135 million in revenue during the 2014-15 fiscal year and spend approximately \$113 million on fuel and other operating expenses.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation has approximately 200 positions in Nunavut's 25 communities.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's primary source of revenue is the sale of power to residential customers, businesses, and other entities.

*See Appendix for full text of Committee Report 6 – 4(2).

The Qulliq Energy Corporation differs from the government's departments and other major Crown agencies and territorial corporations insofar as its annual operations and maintenance budget and annual capital budget are not appropriated by the Legislative Assembly through the main estimates and capital estimates approval process.

Mr. Speaker, this process, which is undertaken through the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly's Committee of the Whole, provides elected Members of the Legislative Assembly with the opportunity to directly question witnesses in detail on planned expenditures and initiatives prior to voting on the requested appropriation.

Consequently, in the interest of transparency and accountability, the standing committee undertook to hold a hearing on the Qulliq Energy Corporation's most recently tabled annual report and current corporate plan.

The September 23, 2014 appearance of the president of the Qulliq Energy Corporation before the Standing Committee took place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly.

The standing committee's hearing was televised live across the territory and was open to the public and news media to observe from the Visitors' Gallery. The transcript from the standing committee's hearing is available on the Legislative Assembly's website.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to highlight the thematic areas that the standing committee has addressed in its report:

- Corporate governance. The standing committee's report notes that there are a number of entities and individuals which have roles within the corporation's governance framework, and that there has been a lack of public clarity as to where final decision-making authority rests with respect to a number of important matters. The standing committee's report makes recommendations in this area. It also recommends that the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* be amended to require the establishment of an audit committee of the corporation's board of directors.
- Contracting, procurement, and leasing. The standing committee's report makes recommendations concerning the corporation's transparency in this area, in addition to the issue of the application of the NNI Policy to the corporation, as well as the status of the corporation's work to address the recommendations that were contained in the 2012 Report of the Auditor General on Procurement of Goods and Services.
- Organizational design and Inuit employment initiatives. The standing committee's report addresses concerns that have arisen with respect to the corporation's organizational design and levels of Inuit employment.
- Capital planning and alternative energy initiatives. The standing committee's recent hearing on the 2012-13 annual report and 2014-18 corporate plan of the Qulliq Energy Corporation featured extensive

consideration of these issues, and the standing committee's report contains a number of recommendations in these areas. The standing committee's report also addresses the issue of the government's Affordable Energy Fund.

- Contaminated sites. The standing committee's recent hearing on the 2012-13 annual report and 2014-18 corporate plan of the Qulliq Energy Corporation also featured extensive consideration of the issue of contaminated sites that were inherited from the federal Northern Canada Power Commission. The standing committee's report contains recommendations that are intended to achieve greater public clarity concerning the status of this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I would note for the record that the standing committee is requesting that the government provide a comprehensive response to this report, pursuant to Rule 91(5) of the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut*.

With that, I move that the report of the standing committee be received by the House and entered into the record as read. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member has moved that the report of the standing committee be received by the House and entered into the record as read. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Thank you. The report has been received by the House and will be entered into the record as read.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Minister Ms. Ugyuk.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 047 – 4(2): FPT Ministerial Report on the Forum of Labour Market

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the FPT Ministerial Report on the Forum of Labour Market Ministers' Meeting in Charlottetown, PEI, during July 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will break for lunch and report back at 1:30.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 11:43 and Committee resumed at 13:31*

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

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak)
(interpretation): Good day to the people
of Baker Lake and Nunavut.

I would now like to call the committee
meeting to order. (interpretation ends) 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? Member for Hudson Bay,
Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman, and good afternoon. Good
afternoon to the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, we wish to continue with
the review of the capital appropriations
of the Department Health, followed by
Nunavut Arctic College, the Department
of Justice, the Department of Family
Services, and the Department of
Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you
very much. Are we in agreement that we
first deal with the capital estimates for
the Department of Health?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2015-2016 – Health –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you
very much. (interpretation ends) Is the
committee agreed to bringing in the
witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-
Arms, please assist the officials.

(interpretation) Thank you very much.
(interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Ell,
please introduce your staff.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank
you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is my
Deputy Minister, Colleen Stockley, and
to my left is Rosemary Keenainak. I
might have to invite this official to go to
the table and that is the Director of
Corporate Services, Johan Glaudemans.
Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you
very much. (interpretation ends)
Members, we were on page H-3.
Directorate. General comments?
(interpretation) General comments?
There are none. (interpretation ends)
Health. Branch Summary. Directorate.
H-3. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. I'm wondering if the minister
could tell us more about the Baffin
Regional Hospital. Once the renovations
are complete, what kind of services are
you going to be offering out of there?
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you
very much. (interpretation ends) Hon.
Minister of Health, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank
you, Mr. Chairman. We expect October
2015 to be our target date for
completion. In regard to the programs
and services, there will be a clinic once
the renovations are completed. Some
offices are situated in the Qikiqtani
General Hospital. Sometimes we have to
go upstairs, but they will be going back

to the outpatient clinic area. There is also a specialist clinic for when specialists arrive. They utilize that area. It will also be used for the family practice clinic and the pharmacist will be situated there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the minister for her detailed answer. What is the current status of staff housing? You have three facilities in Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, and Iqaluit that offer health. They're more regional. Do you have a long-term housing strategy for the health professionals? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask my assistant deputy minister to respond, through you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have some staffing issues in Cambridge Bay in terms of the second floor of the Cambridge Bay facility.

We are working with the housing corporation in terms of staff housing needs in all of our communities because they are the ones who are responsible for staff housing across the GN. Just recently, they asked for a listing of staff housing needs across all of our communities and we provided that

recently. We are working with the housing corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thinking about regional centres and that, Nunavut residents are still required to travel to other jurisdictions for such medical services as dialysis and cancer treatment.

What recent steps has your department made so that Nunavut residents requiring specialized services can receive them at the regional health facilities in the territory? For example, we have a CT scan here. Can any of the patients coming from, let's say, the Kivalliq, come here instead of going to Winnipeg? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And would that save money?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the patients from surrounding communities arrive in Iqaluit, they use that CT scan. We consider that to be more cost-effective. We have been saving money since we started utilizing the CT scan since patients from the surrounding communities have been able to come to Iqaluit to take the CT scan.

In the past, we used to wait for many weeks to get the results for X-rays, sometimes two weeks or more. We're able to send them out through the computer; we can send digital pictures. It's very cost-effective. We save money.

In regard to dialysis services in Nunavut, I believe there are six patients. It would be quite expensive to get a dialysis machine, but I'm sure that as the population grows, we can consider this in more detail some time in the future. I believe that we can consider that in the future, but we have no plans to get a dialysis machine in the meantime. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Thank you for your proper response. (interpretation ends) Documentation provided with the 2014-15 capital estimates earlier this year by the Department of Community and Government Services indicated that consideration was being given to including long-term care beds in newly built community health centres.

Has any consideration been given to having long-term care beds or palliative care beds in the Qikiqtani General Hospital? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to have my Assistant Deputy Minister, Ms. Keenainak, respond to the question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently, it's still being renovated and currently, the plan right now is for one palliative bed. As we're

working on the long-term needs assessment, we will be looking at how we can best utilize some of our facilities. Until that hospital is kind of more operational and all those services move back into that facility, we will reassess that. That's one of the reasons why we're putting in a request to modify Cambridge Bay for that same reason now that has been operational. Once it is done, we will reassess it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past years, the Baffin Regional Hospital struggled to receive necessary accreditation as a Canadian hospital.

What is the current accreditation status of the Qikiqtani General Hospital, and do you anticipate any future challenges in this area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The current accreditation expires next year. We are looking to have certain staff set aside to deal with how to move forward to maintain the accreditation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to go to something else.

As you will have noted yesterday, we talked in the House a lot about elder

care. I'm just wondering, as a department, if you can elaborate on what planning has gone on so far in regard to even your discussions with other departments within the government in how you're going to address elder care and when elders need 24-hour care service. We really don't have the facilities to address that need right now. If you can just talk a little bit about what the plans are and where you're going in that area as a department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. As we have indicated, we are doing a long-term care assessment and needs assessment for Nunavut. This has just begun. We have currently called through teleconference with some communities.

The participants are the mayors, SAOs, and elders, as identified by council members. We have contacted NTI and we will be contacting the Inuit associations in each of the regions. We're also working with other departments, such as Family Services, as we will be partnering on the planning because they also operate elders' facilities. We are also working with the Nunavut Housing Corporation and Culture and Heritage on the seniors file, as well as the Nunavut Housing Corporation, as we just mentioned earlier, on the dwellings in terms of assisted living for the homes for elders.

Health and Family Services are working together to organize residential placements. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We are on capital estimates. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any more questions. I just want to say that I look forward to hearing more about that as you go forward in your developments. That's a really important area or one of the important areas. Thank you. That's it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon and welcome, Madam Minister and your officials.

I will first focus on your opening comments. On page 2, it states that "In September 2013, the department began construction of the new community health centre in Taloyoak and it is expected to be completed by March 2015. The department is requesting \$50,000 in 2015-16 for the closeout phase of the project." I would like clarification on exactly what the closeout phase of the project means. I'll start with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$50,000 is generally used at the end of the project or at the completion of the project so that there can be an assessment on the work that has been completed. That's usually the amount that is given at the end of the project. There has to be a review or an

assessment done at the end. After that is completed, it gives you an overview of what needs further work and when it's going to be open to the public. That's usually what that amount is used for. That's called the closeout phase of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for clarifying that. Again, in your opening comments on page 3, regarding the renovation of the children's group home in Rankin Inlet, I would like further information before I ask my question. It states that "This facility will provide case management and northern-based support systems for clients returning from mental health treatment or addiction treatment programs in southern centres." Could you elaborate further on this paragraph, (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The children's group home in Rankin Inlet is going to be converted to a mental health transition house. That is the intention of our department. You probably know about the Cambridge Bay Mental Health Transition House. Some of them are for 24-hour care. Some part of it is for walk-in patients.

Perhaps I'll say this in English. (interpretation ends) The purpose of the facility would provide services such as assessment, stabilization, residential

treatment, respite care, counselling, life skills development, substance abuse intervention, medication management, and family and community programming. The place would have six beds. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that response, Madam Minister. If I understood her correctly, it will be converted to a mental health transition house and it's likely geared towards adults. It's unfortunate that there are way too many children and youth with mental health issues in Nunavut. They are usually sent out to be treated in southern institutions. It seems like we haven't improved services. It seems like we are decreasing the services provided. We would like to see more and more services being provided in Nunavut whenever possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you. It is going to be similar to what is provided at Akausisarvik here in Iqaluit. Since that facility opened, we have repatriated some of the patients that were housed in the south. After the facility opened in Cambridge Bay, we also repatriated some of the patients that were in southern institutions.

On mental health issues, we have a facility in the schools. The Department of Health and the Department of Education work together so they can

have a (interpretation ends) school-based, positive mental health framework (interpretation) that we are developing. We have been preparing this framework for about 12 months now. We're hoping to have that in place and we have also initiated a new program for health workers in the communities.

We have also initiated a new program through the health department. The federal government has provided us with funds to provide mental health services. We are being proactive and we will provide mental health services in all communities in the future with the help of local-based workers.

(interpretation ends) Further, Mr. Chairman, this would increase the professional development supports provided to the frontline staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From what I understand, the mental health patients or mentally stressed clients are sent out of the territory for treatment. They are sent out to southern institutions. If I understood it correctly, these three facilities will be taking care of clients that require those types of services. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have fewer clients going south for treatment. I am sure that is not going to stop certain circumstances, but we are hoping to see

a decrease in the number going down. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the people of Nunavut expect to see mental health patients and clients being treated up here and none of them having to be treated outside of the territory? Are we looking at having services provided in Nunavut in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is just the beginning of providing the services up here in Nunavut. Some of the mental health patients will be treated in the communities, but there are a variety of mental health issues. If we can't treat them here in Nunavut, they will have to be sent out of the territory for treatment. We hope to see a decrease in the number.

Also, on top of that reason, we aren't just looking at people who hear voices in their heads, but other mentally stressful addictions such as alcohol abuse, since certain services can be easily offered here in Nunavut and that is our expectation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will probably be my last question. With respect to mental health services, we can say that we are

planning for the long term. Have you been planning this for the last five years or is this a new initiative of our fourth government? I hope that was clear, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Can my colleague rephrase the question, please. I didn't hear the entire question, but I did hear the first part. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to provide a proper response.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, want to rephrase my question so that you can provide me with a proper response.

I'm asking about the plan in providing more mental health services in the territory, physiological or otherwise, or for various addictions. You stated that you have been planning this for quite a while. We can say that we can plan for tomorrow or we can plan for something in the future. I do know it costs a lot when it comes to facilities and providing services and employees.

My question was: could you elaborate further on whether these were planned in previous governments or have this come about during the fourth term of our government? I hope that was clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. There are a lot of things that are being done under mental health. For instance, we are looking at reviewing the *Mental Health Act*.

We also have the facility in Cambridge Bay which has beds in there. We have Akauisavik here in Iqaluit with beds as well as day clinics. We're currently looking to do a similar thing in Rankin Inlet. We're trying to improve the health services that are available.

Currently, we're also looking at the Mental Health and Addictions Framework for Action, which is currently available. There are four key areas under the framework that we're focusing action on: quality programming across the service continuum, human resource capacity development, community capacity building, and resource leveraging. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You said that you would provide a proper response and I thank you for being very clear.

I would like to ask my final question. In your opening comments, you stated that you're going to try and use a common design for new health centres. I believe this is being used now. I also believe that you said that it has already saved you a substantial amount of money by using the common designs for new health centres.

Do I understand that whenever possible, whenever you're going to be building new health centres from now on, you will use the same common design, maybe using the last two designs that were used? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The design for the building has always been adjusted. We want to keep on improving it. For the facility in Repulse Bay, in 2011-12, the cost to construct it was \$24.23 million. The facility that was constructed in Taloyoak in 2013-14 was \$29.6 million.

In Arctic Bay, we are going to be constructing the facility in 2015-16, with your approval, and it's expected to cost \$32 million. The construction of the facility in Arctic Bay should be less expensive than we originally thought. We expect that it will be approximately \$29.14 million by using the common design. That's how we're going to be saving money. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the 2014-15 capital estimates, the Assembly approved funding under the Department of Community and Government Services' preplanning section for three health centre replacement projects in the communities of Cape Dorset, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Sanikiluaq. Those projects do not appear in the 2015-16 capital estimates. What is the current

status of these projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Hon. Minister, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): The estimates are set up for a number of years, and what we're planning for the coming year isn't always right there. The plan for the facility in Sanikiluaq has not changed. It will be the third on the list. The Arctic Bay facility is the number one priority and then the one for Cape Dorset would be next. That follows the plans we have established. For construction, we expect that in 2018-19 and 2019-2020, we will be able to announce the details of these plans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From the minister's answer, it sounds like those preplanning studies have been completed that were budgeted for this year. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Ms. Keenainak to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The preplanning budget amount was this fiscal year, so it's still being undertaken. We could provide an update at a later time through a letter from the minister exactly where they are

in terms of the preplanning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When these preplanning studies are complete, how does your department prioritize which projects will be brought forward in the five-year capital plan? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Ms. Keenainak to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are a number of factors that determine the priority listing. It's not only age; it's also the condition and how it has been maintained. Those are some of the factors that are considered in the priority listing of a facility. There are some facilities that are older that are well maintained that are not bumped up, but it is a number of factors that will determine their priority. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your explanation. I have brought it up on many occasions with the conditions of the health centre in my community and it's no secret that it's quite overcrowded

there. The working conditions can be greatly improved if we could get a new health centre there.

Once your prioritization list is completed, how long will it take before we see money in the capital plan for these outstanding, not necessarily outstanding, but these health centres that need to be constructed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): I would like Ms. Keenainak to respond to that one as well because preplanning is her department. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Due to some issues that needed to be repaired in Sanikiluaq, we do have some money for this year to do some minor work just to prolong the life of that facility. After the preplanning is done, we're expecting that construction would begin in 2017-18 with a completion date of March 2020. That's what we currently have for Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We are on Health. Questions on capital estimates. Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although I understand what is being said, I would like to express my thoughts as well. I totally understand about the proposed Arctic Bay Health Centre. I understand that it's a substantial amount of money that is set aside for the design in 2014. Is

all that money for one project or does the cost of the building come from the same design concept? Is that what they are all going to cost now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Arctic Bay, as work progresses in the coming years, the preplanning has been done and the design is completed. For 2014-15, work was approved. For actual construction, \$14 million is budgeted for 2015-16. In 2016-17, we're planning to use \$16,360,000 for this project. For completion in 2017-18, we figure that it will be around \$15,000. We expect the actual completion of the health centre in Arctic Bay to take place in March 2017. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of questions for the minister.

Earlier, my colleague asked for an update on the status of the renovations at the Baffin Regional Hospital. It was stated that it was going to be completed in December of 2015. Are those renovations on track budget-wise? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: I believe the completion date is November 2015. I'll have Ms. Keenainak answer the other

part of his question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the project is on time. We do get regular updates from the contractors on how they're progressing, after they complete, and what their next phase of the project is going to be. Working with CGS, it is progressing now and it is on time and on budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that response. The Akausisarvik Mental Health Facility in Iqaluit has been mentioned a couple of times. What is the resident capacity of that facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): The Akausisarvik facility in Iqaluit has a 22-bed capacity, I believe. Hold on, please.

At this time, I can't recall the actual number of beds that are available at the Akausisarvik facility. I do know there are quite a fair number of beds. It is not at full capacity, as the arrangements are set at one-third, one-third, and one-third into three sections for transients awaiting home placement, permanent residents, and temporary residents. That is why it is operated in a three-pronged approach based on the type of care that they require. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that response. Under the one-third, one-third, and one-third, the minister stated that it's not at capacity. Is there one specific out of the home placement, temporary placement, or the full-time living that is not at capacity consistently? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't have that level of detail the member is asking for. If he wishes for that detailed response, we can give him a letter of response from me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister very much for that commitment. I'll look forward to that information.

Just a final or maybe it's not the final question, since the split with Health and Social Services to the Department of Family Services, how many of Nunavut's community health centres continue to share space with staff of the Department of Family Services?

Chairman: Thank you. Hon. Minister, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Space is still shared with Family Services in the following communities: Arviat, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, Gjoa Haven, Igloodik,

Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Repulse Bay, Sanikiluaq, and Whale Cove. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe it would have been easier to get an answer for which ones don't share space.

>> *Laughter*

With your cabinet colleague, the Minister of Family Services, what strategy is ongoing to alleviate those pressures? As my colleague from Sanikiluaq has mentioned, there's a number of health centres in the communities that are very tight on space and, in a lot of cases, over capacity. With the division in responsibilities, is this going to be a continued practice to share space or is there work being done to actually have that divide infrastructure-wise, not just department-wise? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. We all know that the need for additional workspace is a challenge in most Nunavut communities. We are working with CG&S in trying to find adequate office and treatment space. As we all know, this is a challenge in many health [centres]. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to ongoing progress in that nature for both their departments' sake.

I just have one final question; I just have to satisfy the Curious George in me. In the minor projects, it has got one of the proposed projects of a room in the 2016-18 renovation at the Qikiqtani General Hospital. Just to satisfy my curiosity, could the minister describe that project, please?

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): I would like Ms. Keenainak to respond to that question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know the specifics of that particular one, so I will have to get back to you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sure that space will be utilized to maximum efficiency. Maybe it's a dialysis machine coming to Nunavut, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Laughter*

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): I don't believe that was a question, but we will get back to the member, through you, Mr. Chairman, and provide that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Health. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I just want a bit of clarification on the item that Mr. Rumbolt asked on the three different health centres in the preplanning stage. Are these three preplanned health centres using a common design? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. I would just like to remind the members to please raise your hand ahead of time. Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Yes, Mr. Chairman, they are using the common design. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the minister able to say which designs they are being based off of? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: We have prepared a letter to the committee, and one of the questions asked from the committee was a copy of the common design and that will be provided. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We look forward to that information.

Moving on, I would just like to get an update or some information on what the current status and occupancy levels are for the continuing care facilities in Igloolik and Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): We are reviewing the capital estimates of the Department of Health, but Minister Ell may wish to respond. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the continuing care centres in Gjoa Haven and Igloolik that the member asked about, the one in [Gjoa Haven] opened in 2009 and the one in Igloolik opened in the fall of 2010 with an approximate capacity of 20 beds. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We are on questions on capital estimates. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate you allowing me to ask those questions.

I will move on to one more question and it's involving the department's small capital items, which include a number of vehicles, all of them Ford Escapes. The minister's department's vehicle inventory information indicates that a number of vans and pickups are owned by the department. Can the minister say how many of those types of vehicles

need replacing and when they will be replaced? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not reviewed that. I don't have (interpretation ends) that level of detail, (interpretation) so I'll ask Ms. Keenainak to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the minor projects and small capital, we do an internal call letter from the regional offices for them to kind of identify what needs to be replaced and that is reviewed on an annual basis.

We do have a call letter for 2015-16, so we're reviewing that now and we will be finalizing that list for the next fiscal year. Once it's finalized, we will provide a tentative list. As we have indicated in this year's letter, it's subject to emergencies and issues that arise. We can give you a preliminary list of what's being planned for next year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. I believe Minister Ell would like to supplement the response.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): No. I responded earlier to my colleague when he asked about the facility in Gjoa Haven, which is Uqsuqtuuq, not Uluqsuqtuuq. I was trying to say Uqsuqtuuq. I'm just trying to correct my

mistake and I thank you for pointing that out.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We're on (interpretation ends) Health. Branch Summary. Directorate. (interpretation) Capital Estimates 2015-16. Following my list of names, Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although it's not in the capital estimates, I do have a question for the minister. As she is aware, in the Kivalliq, the Rankin Inlet Health Centre is the most frequented by doctors, along with patients from surrounding communities. However, (interpretation ends) in the capital plan, (interpretation) I still have not seen plans for a transient centre. (interpretation ends) Are there any future plans for a transient centre? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Health, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): The boarding homes for patients are all operated through contract agreements with independent operators not owned by the Nunavut government. In negotiations with the federal government, the number of beds for the boarding homes is determined. That's how it's set up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So have you had any talks with any of the private contractors or

organizations in regard to leasing a transient centre? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We're dealing with the capital estimates, but the Minister of Health may wish to respond. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Not with private organizations, but when we're establishing a new boarding home, it requires discussions with Health Canada. Discussions with Health Canada regarding a Rankin Inlet boarding home have been initiated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Yes, I completely understand (interpretation ends) that we are on capital expenditures, (interpretation) but I want to ask another question to (interpretation ends) the minister. Has the department ever considered approaching organizations such as Sakku Development? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we have just begun initiations with the federal government on this type of discussion, we cannot go to a private organization at this time until we know what Health Canada's position will be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We are on Health. Branch Summary. Directorate. Capital Estimates 2015-16. Following the list of names, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to follow along the lines of my colleague. I'm going to have a question because it's not in the plan.

As the minister is quite aware, Arviat has the highest birth rate in Nunavut. I would like to ask the minister if there are any plans to put a birthing centre in Arviat. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Health, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. At this time, no, but if his population keeps growing, we will think of it in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is growing every day.

>> *Laughter*

I thank the minister for saying that she will put a birthing centre there because she said that if the population is growing, they will put a birth centre there. I thank the minister for her well-chosen words. It would save the department money too.

>> *Laughter*

On another matter, they talk about the common design of health centres. I haven't seen the common design. I also know that there is a shortage of staff housing and sometimes it's an issue for hiring health centre staff. Are there any houses attached to or part of the new nursing stations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The one that was built in Repulse Bay that was completed did include [housing] for health centre staff. The one in Arctic Bay, I believe, will not be. For the future, we're hoping that they will be separated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess they're not quite common designs then if one has staff housing and the other one doesn't. Is that why one turns out to be cheaper than the other because there's no accommodation attached to it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we noted earlier, the common design was requested by the committee when we met with your committee. As such, we will be providing the common design.

As I was saying, when buildings are completed, we have staff and other technical experts go look at the way the

building was completed and give us ideas on how to make improvements. Working with CG&S, it was found that in the common design, if the buildings' staff housing units were built in conjunction but separately, it would reduce costs. With that, we're moving forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going on to a different matter, the regional health centres in Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet have been open for some time now. Can the minister inform us whether they are operating at full capacity and, if not, what are the current levels of service at these two places? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that information in front of me. I will ask Ms. Keenainak to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the exact numbers with me, but we can provide that. At the Cambridge Bay health facility, the outpatient unit is fully staffed, but the second floor is not fully staffed, so we do have a high vacancy rate there. In the one in Rankin Inlet, there is a bit of a vacancy rate, but not as high as the one Cambridge Bay. We can provide a bit of a snapshot in time

through the minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You can rule whether this is appropriate or not. Is the amount of service being provided due to staffing issues? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have to get back to the member through a letter through you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Health. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$17,150,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Back to page H-2. Department Summary. Health. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$17,150,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much for your approval. Does the committee agree that we have concluded the Department of Health?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Health, Minister Ell, do you have any closing comments?

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the officials for appearing before the committee. I also thank the staff of the Department of Health because they work very hard and they are very dedicated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. The Department of Health has been concluded. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

Thank you very much. Colleagues, we will take a five-minute break, and then we will start with Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you very much.

>>Committee recessed at 14:39 and resumed at 14:50

**Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2015-2016 – Nunavut Arctic
College –Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much for coming back. The committee meeting will now come to order. (interpretation ends) I would now like to ask Minister Quassa: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee?

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, yes, I would like to have officials with me at the table today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Do my colleagues agree to bring in the minister's officials?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) For the record, Minister Quassa, please introduce your official.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to warmly welcome the official sitting to my right and I would like my colleagues to welcome the President of Nunavut Arctic College, Peter Ma.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We welcome him. You may now proceed with your opening comments. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to present and discuss the proposed 2015-16 capital plan for Nunavut Arctic College. As the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, I am looking forward to the opportunity to advance the mandate of the Government of Nunavut, especially as it applies to Nunavut Arctic College.

(interpretation ends) Nunavut Arctic College has taken on the responsibility of their capital planning, linking facility development and program delivery strategies. They continue to develop their internal capital planning capacity to build a firm infrastructure for training Nunavummiut.

(interpretation) As the only post-secondary institution in the territory, Arctic College plays a central role in providing Nunavummiut with adult learning programs and services. Our core business is training for employment.

Building self-reliance through training and employment is our goal.

This year's submission requests \$4,802,000 in capital funding. The focus is to continue building infrastructure which allows program delivery in all communities.

(interpretation ends) You will see on the plan that construction continues on the Kitikmeot Residence and Daycare Centre in Cambridge Bay. Student accommodation and services is a fundamental piece for program delivery at the campus level. Arctic College can only train as many students as we can house when taking campus-based programs. This supports the continued planning and development of the mine training centre/Kitikmeot Campus in Cambridge Bay and will allow the enhancement of health and education programs in the region. This project also provides us with great opportunities to build relationships with the Canadian High Arctic Research Station, which is scheduled to be completed for 2017.

The future design and construction of the Kitikmeot Campus and Mine Training Centre will ensure each region has a campus facility and the ability to deliver innovative and diversified programs. Planning and design (\$800,000) money for this facility is requested for 2015 in order for construction to be completed by 2019.

(interpretation) Nunavut Arctic College's roots are the services provided to our students in the communities. The core of our program delivery is in the community learning centres. There are three new CLCs in the planning and design stages: Iqaluit, Grise Fiord, and

Whale Cove. Completion of these three facilities will provide a physical space for CLCs in all Nunavut communities and strengthens the number of new initiatives which can be offered at the community level. Increased delivery at the community level is a strategic direction of the college.

These community learning centres have been in the capital planning process for several years and are moving forward. The Grise Fiord CLC is a renovation to the existing hamlet building in the community (\$1,752,000). The start date of the project was dependent upon the completion of the new hamlet facility, allowing us to renovate the existing building as a CLC. The new hamlet office was opened in June of 2014 and site visits and design are planned for this fiscal year. Whale Cove planning and design continues and a site has been selected and secured. A repeat design for the new facility is ongoing and should be completed by 2014-15. Construction of the new facility is scheduled to be initiated in 2015-16 (\$1 million). Our plan to develop a CLC in Iqaluit is progressing. Site selection was completed in 2013; planning of the facility was initiated with completion of the design in 2015-16.

(interpretation ends) Small capital of \$250,000 is also being requested in order to ensure that we are able to meet growing demands for the replacement of equipment and vehicles. The focus of this funding will continue to be the renewal and update of IT needs for the college. This allows Arctic College the flexibility to address aging equipment for effective program delivery in the college, but also Piqqusilirivvik and the Nunavut Research Institute.

(interpretation) The aging infrastructure requires significant attention, which is currently not being addressed by the minor capital budget. Nunavut Arctic College is requesting an additional \$1 million per year for ongoing lifecycle maintenance. This additional funding will provide the college with some of the resources necessary to tackle the larger projects that have not been addressed with our current minor capital budget. Some of the projects for this funding will be addressing ongoing issues with student residences in Iqaluit and CLCs in the communities.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to discuss Nunavut Arctic College's capital plan for 2015-16 and the subsequent four years. This is a critical government investment in training Nunavummiut for employment. I look forward to your questions, comments, and discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Does the chair of the standing committee have comments? Please proceed, Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2015-16 Capital Estimates for Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Chairman, Nunavut Arctic College's proposed capital budget for 2015-16 is \$4.8 million, which will be allocated to three community-specific projects as well as towards two minor capital projects for addressing upgrades and

renovations to current facilities and small equipment needs.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee is in full support of Nunavut Arctic College's role in providing educational opportunities to adults across Nunavut. Members recognize the importance of having the basic infrastructure from which to deliver both campus-based and community-based programs which are relevant to the needs and aspirations of the population.

Mr. Chairman, the development of an effective campus model which can provide focused educational programming in various disciplines is key to establishing a capable and employable workforce. The long-term investment in the Kitikmeot Campus in Cambridge Bay is a testament to this objective. Members are pleased that providing daycare space for students is a major component of this project and urge the minister to continue his department's commitment to ensuring that early childhood programming space is included within all future infrastructure projects.

Mr. Chairman, members look forward to learning of future plans for the next phase of training delivered through the Kivalliq Trades Training Centre. Members would also appreciate receiving regular updates on partnerships that are negotiated in conjunction with mining companies, municipalities, and other entities to invest in Nunavut-based infrastructure and which can lead to employment and careers within the mining industry and other sectors.

Mr. Chairman, the status of Nunavut Arctic College's Nunatta Campus in

Iqaluit has raised some concerns. A new community learning centre in the capital city has been included in the college's recent five-year capital plans although it is not yet scheduled to proceed. While this Assembly recently approved a carryover of funds for this project, its status remains unclear. Members recognize that there is increasing pressure to update or replace infrastructure, such as the North 40 campus building, also known as the Old Residence, and look forward to regular updates on this issue.

Members raised a number of concerns regarding the level of miscommunication between on-site workers, Arctic College staff, and college students as a result of recent renovations at this facility. The standing committee stresses the importance of establishing and maintaining open communication and dialogue in such situations.

Mr. Chairman, two community learning centre projects are planned for the communities of Grise Fiord and Whale Cove. Members are in full support of these projects, as community learning centres support Nunavut residents in their home communities while they work towards their educational advancement and future employability.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2015-16 Capital Estimates of Nunavut Arctic College. I am confident that my colleagues will wish to offer further comments of their own. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Joanase. General comments. I have no names on my list for general comments. We will now

proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates. On the first page, Nunavut Arctic College. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Headquarters. M-3. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) welcome, as well as your officials. I will be basing my questions on your opening comments and since the pages are numbered, let me just state the matter I want to ask about. This was related to your comments about the mine training program being developed.

Mr. Chairman, I would like some information. As the hon. minister is well aware, a mine adjacent to Pond Inlet is being developed. In particular, for the residents of Baffin Island, it provides a great opportunity for employment for our residents who are interested in working in a mine. It is adjacent to Pond Inlet.

With respect to your comments about the mine training program being developed for the Kitikmeot, we don't have a facility like that in the Baffin region. The Mary River project is proceeding towards production and it looks like it will become operational shortly. I would like to ask the minister when his department will be looking to open a mine training program in the community of Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that very pertinent question. Yes, for the development of the mine in the

Baffin region adjacent to the community of Pond Inlet, my own community is also fairly close as well, so I completely understand your commentary.

Now, with respect to the Kitikmeot Campus and Mine Training Centre that is being developed to teach mine trades, there will be different courses for the various mining trades based on the jobs at our mines. Let's be clear that the Kitikmeot centre isn't solely for the residents of the Kitikmeot and it is open to all Nunavummiut. As per my earlier comments, I believe this is the third campus we have, as we have a campus here in Iqaluit, there is a campus in the Kivalliq region for trades training, and now this centre for mine trades training in that campus.

This just goes right along with the *Sivumut Abluqta* Mandate to train whoever they can train in Nunavut or to have training programs in Nunavut. The campus in the Kitikmeot, although it will be located in Cambridge Bay, is open to all residents of Nunavut, with students from the Baffin, Kivalliq, and Kitikmeot regions. We will be building the residence, as our expectations are that students will arrive from all corners of Nunavut to take the mine trades training courses.

With respect to the actual question regarding a new facility, I can't answer that right now, but once the new campus has started up and is offering programs, we also expect students from the Baffin region to attend those programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understood you correctly, the college now has three campuses. As Nunavut Arctic College, are you telling me as well as Nunavummiut that we will never have four campuses? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this current time, that is the plan we are following to date. We currently have the three campuses and I am not insinuating that there will never be a fourth campus. I was just reporting on what our plans are in this current fiscal year. Once the campus in Cambridge Bay is up and running, as it obviously is being started up, it will finally be the third campus ever since we started creating campuses here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The news contains many stories about development, particularly in the Baffin region, that mining development is growing exponentially. There is another project near Iqaluit we hear of and that is the Peregrine Diamond project, as well as another project adjacent to Hall Beach and obviously, about the start-up of the mine at Mary River. These projects will require employees. The Mary River project is amongst the largest and possibly longest-lived mine based on the reserves.

The Government of Nunavut has continually stated this principle that wherever possible, students will be taught at the closest institution to their homes, as this allows for greater completion of the courses, and the Department of Education is always making that statement.

Due to the high number of positions available at Mary River in particular, the Kitikmeot mine training centre may, indeed, be a great place to teach mine trades, as people prefer a well set-up facility. However, the principle of adjacency means wherever possible, we will clamour for a facility closer to home. This is one of the core principles of this government.

Now, as we are in the Fourth Legislative Assembly, can this government consider a Baffin-specific facility? Due to Pond Inlet's proximity, it would seem to be the most viable option. Will a creation of a mine trades training centre be considered? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague about his concerns related to training programs. The campus in Cambridge Bay isn't yet operational or even offering courses that we are trying to open in the Kitikmeot region, with the ongoing work to complete the residences that we expect to be completed by March 2015. We would prefer to have students from the Baffin region taking the training once it is operational.

However, the last point the member raised is one we will have to discuss

with all Members of this House if we are going to contemplate ideas of that nature.

With the availability of spaces at the campus, it will not just be open to residents of the Kitikmeot, as it is for all residents of Nunavut. Furthermore, the campus in Rankin Inlet is also full with people taking the trades program from all over Nunavut at the trades training centre. The courses are full with students from all over Nunavut. We have the same expectations with the campus in the Kitikmeot region and we fully expect Nunavummiut to take advantage of the courses. From my perspective, I am not too worried about the actual location due to this reason.

As long as these programs are open to prospective students who wish to work in those fields from anywhere in Nunavut, it is my priority. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, think along the same lines as the minister, as long as people could at least have an opportunity to train not just for the residents of the Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, or Qikiqtaaluk. As the minister said, training opportunity should be available to everyone. I appreciate the campus in the Kitikmeot, but I'm not talking about that right now nor am I talking about the trade school in the Kivalliq. I appreciate that they're there and I hope they are fully taken advantage of.

If I may, I want to ask a different question. The future of jobs in mining in

this is, indeed, very bright. In fact, the number of jobs will increase so much. For example, in Mary River, a lot of people are brought in from the south because our people are not sufficiently trained. Here we are taking the stand that so long as our people have the opportunity for training.

Wouldn't it be appropriate, take the Qikiqtaaluk for example, or in my case, Pond Inlet, to have another campus built there with the view that since mining jobs will be so many, there likely will be a lot of people who will want to become trained. If so, the proposed school in the Kitikmeot will not likely have the capacity to train every applicant. When one thinks of what I just mentioned, I want to ask the question again about reconsidering building another mining school in the Qikiqtaaluk or in Pond Inlet by our government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is no question that we thoroughly look for ideas from anyone. We are always open and would welcome any suggestions. I look forward to the opening of the mining school so that anyone who wants to be trained can get into various careers in mining, such as millwrights, welders, and other professions. Once that school is open, people from all over Nunavut will have the opportunity to acquire the skills to take on the jobs that mining will provide. So, yes, we do really want to hear good ideas anytime. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had asked a different minister earlier along the same lines, so let me ask a question in the same train of thought. We can deliberate the issue until tomorrow or for the next 20 years. In this Fourth Assembly, can this issue be researched and a decision of some sort made? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If and when the need arises and the process requires that this be discussed, then it would be considered. We can't just create something out of the blue without going through processes and thinking about them. At this time, I can't say it can never be done or it will be done. We do, however, always welcome suggestions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So that I will understand correctly, since you say that you're open to new ideas, will you be taking this into consideration now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated, this is what we do all the time, that we welcome and seriously consider them. We will, indeed, take those ideas into

consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask along a different line while the minister is deliberating when he will put in a school in Pond Inlet.

In relation to the department's proposed budget, I am looking at a completely different issue related to adult education, the ones in 2014-15 that you have identified previously, block capital estimates included funding under the Department of Community and Government Services for preplanning for a new CLC in Kugaaruk. Why does this project no longer appear in your five-year capital plan? Why is it that the CLC that was planned for Kugaaruk simply disappeared? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once we consult with Community and Government Services, we will be able to return to your question with an answer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. I at least have another thing to look forward to, so I thank you.

Hon. Minister, let me ask you simply for the purpose of clarification. We want to teach adults in the communities with various courses, but Arctic College

never seems to offer the courses that we want offered in our communities. It is regrettable that we don't always get our wish list considered.

With regard to community learning centres in our communities, if we want them expanded because they're becoming overcrowded, who do we have to convince that, for instance, our CLC is now too small? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Sorry about the little delay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There have to be reasons why there would need to be those things. There are things to consider, such as increasing number of jobs and an expanding population, so there's a need to teach those courses at the community level.

To date, we have not been informed, for example, by Pond Inlet or any other community about the need to expand the local CLCs. Every year, we review the status of the CLCs and what they need for renovation. You talked about Pond Inlet. We have not heard anything from Pond Inlet and whether the CLC there needs to be expanded or what other things need to be done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wasn't talking specifically about Pond Inlet. I was talking about Nunavut in general and

any community college in Nunavut that may need to be expanded.

My question is: who would we have to get in touch with? For example, if we want to raise issues about education in the community, we can approach the local DEA. I know that Arctic College has a board of directors, but who do the people in the community have to approach? Is it through the local hamlet or is it someone else? I ask this question so that people in the communities will then know what the process is with this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for seeking clarification. I would urge that the adult educators in the community be approached or contact the president of Arctic College directly. Anyone who wants their local CLC to be expanded or anything done, communities each have adult educators and I encourage people to go see them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I didn't make my question clear. For example, the adult educator works for you and I don't think the educator would want to tell you something that you wouldn't like to hear. That is how government workers generally are; they're reluctant to talk openly.

What I was trying to ask is, for example, if little Josephie Inuk from Pond Inlet

tells you that our community learning centre is now too small and we're asking you to expand it, most of the time no one would pay serious attention to him because he's just an ordinary Joe.

Organizations tend to be paid more attention. I'm asking who I can approach to represent me, who would be listened to when they tell you, "Hey, there needs to be an expansion of the community learning centre." Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): I understand your question. Thank you for the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are happy to hear things of this nature. Perhaps your hamlet could even communicate these types of things to us so that they could be directed to the president of the college.

However, we need to know that there is a process relating to new capital projects. It is a long process of planning to go through. You can't just suddenly get a million from here and there on your own. I believe people generally know this kind of process is to be expected.

Yes, we definitely do want to hear, including local municipal governments, from local people on issues my colleague raises. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We are dealing with the capital estimates for Nunavut Arctic College. Following my list of names, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister. In your 2014-15 capital estimates, it included funding for CG&S to do a preplanning study for the Arviat Teacher Education Centre. This project does not appear in the 2016-2020 five-year capital plan. Can you provide an update on this project? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my colleague for asking that question. I can say at this time that we don't have the detailed information in regard to the member's question. Perhaps we can get back to the member with our response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also, in your 2014-15 capital estimates, you have included funding for CG&S to do another preplanning study for the equipment training centre component of the trades training centre in Rankin Inlet. While this project remains on the books for 2016-2020, it is not clear when it will begin. Can you provide an update on this project? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We also don't have that detailed information, I apologize, but I can also get back to the member in regard to the question. It is a

very good question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let's try a third one.

>>*Laughter*

Just a clarification on the community learning centre in Whale Cove. In your opening comments, you said that it is scheduled to be initiated in 2015-16 with a \$1 million budget, but in your substantiation sheet, it says that you have already spent \$1.4 million on this project. Just a clarification on what the \$1.4 million was spent on if the building is not being built. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleague for asking that question. In regard to Whale Cove, let's be aware that to date, we have not started the construction, but we expect to see the tender in March 2015. Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, through you, I will have the president of Nunavut Arctic College supplement my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. President of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Ma.

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member raises a good question. At this point, I think he's right. We haven't started construction. It would seem odd that there would be prior expenditures, so it's something that we will look into

and, through you, we will get back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask the minister. \$1.4 million was spent or might have been spent, but they don't know what it's for. They budgeted \$1 million for 2015-16. I'll just ask him now. For 2016-17, he has nearly \$1.8 million for the same project. Are these figures correct, that it's going to be a \$4.3 million learning centre?

To top it off, in his substantiation sheet, he says that the daycare portion has been removed from the project. They're building less and appear to be spending more. Clarification. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the daycare centre, the plan is to still have it attached as we have already stated that any new community learning centre anywhere in Nunavut or if there is to be an expansion of an existing facility, a daycare centre will always be included. The centre in Whale Cove will include a daycare as part of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can only go by what the substantiation sheet says and it clearly states that the daycare has been removed from this project plan, so that's why I'm asking.

That's one part and he didn't answer the other part. They already spent \$1.4 million. They're going to spend \$1 million in 2015-16 and another \$1.8 million in 2016-17. Is that all correct? The minister stated that the daycare is going ahead, but the substantiation sheet says that it has been removed. Just a clarification. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will just reiterate the fact that the daycare is still a part of the project, so I just wanted to clarify that. Every new facility associated with Nunavut Arctic College, whether it is a community learning centre, will include a daycare and this will continue. Perhaps the president of Nunavut Arctic College can provide further details, with your permission, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Ma.

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I see where there is the discrepancy that the member mentioned with the substantiation sheet. I looked at our own note here. There are probably some errors in the substantiation sheet. They're not always updated to the current time that the departments or territorial corporations appear in the House. I will confirm all this, but it's my understanding, like the minister said, that the daycare is a go-ahead.

With respect to the prior years' expenditures, it does show \$1.4 million roughly. About \$400,000 of that is for design and the other \$1 million is for

construction, but again, I just don't think that actually happened. I think there possibly are some errors in the substantiation sheet, but I will confirm that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the next appearance, maybe the substantiation sheets should be thoroughly checked so that we're not misled. I know that it's not intentional, but it should be checked.

I still haven't got any clarity on the additional \$1.8 million in 2016. Is that to complete the project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it's for the completion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's all I had. Just make sure the substantiation sheets are up to date when we come here because as committee members, that's all the information that we are given and we have to go by what we are given. We don't have any information from anywhere else other than what we are given. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I take that as a comment. We are on Nunavut Arctic College. Branch Summary. Headquarters. Following the list of names, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon to the minister and Mr. Ma. In Sanikiluaq, we only have a one-room Arctic College facility for our community learning centre. It has been proven that there's a need for an additional classroom in the community.

Back on March 17 of 2014, during Committee of the Whole, there were some questions raised concerning the need and the costs associated with renovating unused classrooms at the elementary school to be utilized as additional classrooms for our community learning centre.

At that time, Mr. Corneau was the dean of Nunatta Campus. He stated to us that they were looking at the option of renovating a classroom for our community learning centre at the Nuiyak School. He went on to say that there are some preliminary estimates for the cost of renovations of being between \$200,000 and \$250,000. What is the status of this project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleague for asking that question, the member from Sanikiluaq. To date, it's true that the classroom in Nuiyak School is being utilized. In addition, the local DEA has agreed to a five-year use of the classroom.

During the renovation process in July 2014, they opened the tender and closed the tender on August 13, 2014. The lowest bid was around \$321,550. The

company that put in a bid was from Quebec. We're working with the company and we're in the process of signing the contract at this time. We expect that in October, they will start the renovation. We expect that the renovations will be completed by November 30, 2014 in Sanikiluaq.

As I stated earlier, Nunavut Arctic College works closely with the DEA in Sanikiluaq and the DEAs are working closely with the NTEP program. The NTEP program will start at that time and that's what we expect. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the information. At the end of his comments, he said that NTEP would be starting in the classroom, but it's my understanding that NTEP was already started in my community and they are using a classroom from Nuiyak School. I wonder if the minister can give me a little bit more information at what time this classroom will be ready for use as a community learning centre. How is the department going to handle the equipment required at Arctic College for their communications that are presently in the old building? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. As per my earlier response, our expectation is that it will be completed by November 30, 2014 and it will be available for use after that.

Additionally, with respect to the latter question, maybe the president of Nunavut Arctic College can supplement my response to the member's question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Ma.

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not aware of what equipment needs to be relocated and moved. However, what I will do is, once we're done committee today, I will follow up on that and then, through you, we will get a response back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We're dealing with the capital estimates for Nunavut Arctic College. Following my list of names, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've just got a couple of questions.

In the minister's opening comments, he talks about the plan to develop the CLC in Iqaluit and how it's progressing, that the site selection was completed last year, and that the design phase is scheduled to be complete in the 2015-16 year.

If my memory serves me correct, the construction was supposed to have been started this year. Could the minister explain what has caused the delay of one fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank

my colleague for that question. This issue has been raised by many residents of Iqaluit.

To date, we are continuing our discussion with the Department of Community and Government Services to see how we can revisit with the reasoning that the planned project for the community learning centre here in Iqaluit may require a larger facility. This is being reviewed now with that purpose in mind. We are collaborating with the CGS department.

Additionally, if this revamping will require further approval with this increase in size, primarily due to the reason that we are looking at that facility called the Ukiivik residence, we are revisiting this to see if we need to look at a larger facility. We are currently reviewing it, thus the reason for the delay to the next fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Hickes, my apologies. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought maybe Mr. Rumbolt had thought of another question in the meantime.

This is probably my last question, Mr. Chairman. In the draft capital estimates, it talks about a \$1 million budget for ongoing lifecycle repairs and maintenance, yet the supporting documentation doesn't list any projects, period, and none as a priority. Are specific projects in mind for this budget allocation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, for this allocation, Nunavut Arctic College has requested \$1 million for fiscal year 2014-15 for different projects or maintenance issues, such as the (interpretation ends) re-levelling of Iqaluit Q units, (interpretation) and you may know where the Q units are located, (interpretation ends) repair of the jewellery building floor (interpretation) in Iqaluit, (interpretation ends) renovate the computer lab, Nunatta Campus, Sanikiluaq, a relocation into a school and making necessary changes in the school to meet DEA and Department of Education requirements. (interpretation) These are some of the projects I spoke to that would be specifically funded from this allocation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We are on Nunavut Arctic College. Branch Summary. Headquarters. Page M-3. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last spring, there was an announcement at the mining symposium and I think it was one of the mining company spokesmen that came forward and they talked about presenting \$5 million, I think it was, towards the government for an arctic university. Can you tell us today if any further discussions have taken place and whether or not the idea of having an arctic university is going to be a reality? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. This is part of the ongoing discussion being debated worldwide. Now, Nunavut Arctic College has continually kept a close eye on this discussion and we are now reviewing how a university could be set up in our future. It is obviously an idea that our sister territories are debating, as our three territories have discussed this idea, and to hold further talks on it down the road so that an arctic university is created.

To date, this discussion is growing, but unfortunately, there are no tangible plans for this initiative. Nonetheless, this is a future long-term goal, but we are starting to expect that it will eventually become more than just an idea. However, I just can't provide an actual date on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Ms. Angnakak, you're done. Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Nunavut Arctic College. Branch Summary. Headquarters. Total Capital Expenditures. \$4,802,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Back to page M-2. Department Summary. Nunavut Arctic College. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$4,802,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded Nunavut Arctic College?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa, Nunavut Arctic College minister, if you have any closing remarks.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleagues for their questions on our operations, and it is obvious that the questions raised are held by many Nunavummiut residents. I certainly hope I provided adequate responses and I hope that was the case.

Also, I thank the individual sitting to my right, who is the current president of Nunavut Arctic College.

Furthermore, it is obvious that the projects we want to complete enjoy the support of the members and I am extremely grateful for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witness out.

Thank you very much. We will take a short five-minute break. After the break, we will start the review on the Department of Justice. We will take a short break. Thank you very much.

>>Committee recessed at 16:00 and resumed at 16:14

**Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
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Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We will now resume our meeting. I would like to welcome all the

visitors in the Gallery who are watching the committee meeting.

I would now like to ask Minister Okalik: (interpretation ends) would you like to appear before the committee? Oh.

>>*Laughter*

...officials? My apologies. I would now like to ask Minister Okalik: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee?

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Does the committee agree to let the minister's officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

For the record, Minister Okalik, please introduce your officials.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me this afternoon to my left is my Deputy Minister, Elizabeth Sanderson, and to my right is Chris Stewart, Manager of Capital Projects at our department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome. (interpretation ends) Please proceed with your opening comments, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the committee for the

review of the Department of Justice's draft 2015-16 capital estimates.

A total amount of \$2,265,000 is being requested for the Department of Justice's capital expenditures for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

With the opening of the overcrowding relief structure, or Makigiavik, the department is preparing for renovations to the Baffin Correctional Centre. This year, preplanning assessments are being completed to understand the scope of work that will be required in future years. Next fiscal year, the department will develop designs to upgrade the facility to current building codes and to better reflect the needs of the facility. The department requests \$850,000 for this planning phase.

At the Nunavut Court of Justice, the department is seeking to use \$655,000 to complete renovations and design. Renovations will provide office space for the sheriffs. Design work for the addition of a wellness court for those who suffer from addictions and mental health issues will also occur at the same time.

To address any deficiencies in the overcrowding relief structure, which will be completed this fall, the department requests \$50,000.

Lastly, \$700,000 is being requested for minor capital expenditures, including renovations at the Sivummut building to accommodate new staff, building assessment and repairs to Illavut Centre, upgrades to the security cameras and duct cleaning at the Baffin Correctional Centre, three replacement vehicles and two additional vehicles to safely

transport inmates and allow programming, replacement of beds with bunk beds to accommodate additional inmates at the Nunavut Women's Correctional Centre, and various equipment for inmate programs.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I would be pleased to answer questions from committee members. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Minister Okalik. Does the chair of the standing committee have comments? Please proceed, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness concerning its review of the proposed 2015-16 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year is \$2,265,000. The department's capital budget was \$900,000 for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Members note that the increase in the department's budget is a result of the renovation projects to be undertaken at the Baffin Correctional Centre and the Nunavut Justice Centre.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2015-16 capital estimates include \$700,000 for a variety of small capital projects. These projects will include upgrades and repairs to existing correctional facilities and the replacement of mobile equipment.

Members continue to encourage the department to explore ways in which minor repair projects in correctional facilities could be used as vocational training opportunities for offenders as part of the department's rehabilitation and skills training programs.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2015-16 capital estimates include \$665,000 in funding for renovations to the Nunavut Justice Centre. Members recognize that amendments to the *Judicature Act* have resulted in an increased need for security personnel and infrastructure at the Nunavut Justice Centre.

Members note that the department intends to undertake renovations at the Nunavut Justice Centre in two phases. The first phase will focus on renovating office space and the second phase will involve adding higher security measures to the existing facility.

Mr. Chairman, during the minister's recent appearance, he indicated that his department is interested in implementing a "Wellness Court" within Nunavut's current justice system. Similar services in Yukon and the Northwest Territories have recently been established to divert offenders with mental illnesses, addictions, and cognitive impairments from standard correctional sentencing. The minister also indicated that in the event of its establishment, this "Wellness Court" may be located within the Nunavut Justice Centre. Members look forward to receiving ongoing updates on this initiative.

Mr. Chairman, in June of 2014, the Legislative Assembly approved \$6,938,000 in capital carryover funding

for the overcrowding relief structure project at the Baffin Correctional Centre. Members note that the new relief facility is designed to accommodate approximately 48 low-security offenders.

During the minister's recent appearance, he indicated that the new relief facility is scheduled to be completed in November of this year. The minister also indicated that the facility may receive inmates as early as January of 2015. Members are aware that the opening of this facility will help to address overcrowding at the Baffin Correctional Centre. However, members also note that a number of inmates will be transferred to the new facility as renovations take place at the Baffin Correctional Centre.

Mr. Chairman, the department has included \$850,000 in its 2015-16 capital estimates to begin work on renovations at the Baffin Correctional Centre. Members are aware that these renovations are needed to bring the facility up to code and to upgrade its security systems. Members encourage the minister to provide regular updates to the Legislative Assembly on the status of the upcoming renovations at the Baffin Correctional Centre.

Members recognize the importance of effective healing and rehabilitation programs in correctional facilities to help enable offenders to successfully reintegrate into their communities. Members also recognize the importance of incorporating cultural components in rehabilitation. Outpost camps can play an important role in achieving these goals.

During the minister's recent appearance, members noted that the department is interested in establishing additional outpost camps in the territory. Members look forward to ongoing updates on this important issue.

Members continue to encourage the Minister of Justice to begin the practice of tabling an annual report in the Legislative Assembly on the state of the territory's correctional system, including current and comprehensive information concerning the number of offenders in territorial correctional facilities, outpost camps, and out-of-territory facilities, as well as an accounting of departmental expenditures incurred under agreements with other jurisdictions for the placement of offenders.

This information would be of benefit to all Members of the Legislative Assembly and would assist the government in analyzing and substantiating the need for new correctional facilities and resources. This annual report may also benefit from including detailed information on the effectiveness of the department's rehabilitation and treatment programs in reducing the rate at which individuals in territorial custody reoffend.

Members also look forward to next year's report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Legislative Assembly on correctional services in Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2015-16 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. General comments. I have no

names on my list for general comments. Colleagues, I would like to remind you that if you have any questions, please raise your hand. We're reviewing Justice Branch Summary Directorate. Page E-3. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your opening statements, you talk about a wellness court. Can the minister tell us if the wellness court...? Before I ask my first question, maybe what I would like you to do is just elaborate a little bit further so that everybody knows what a wellness court is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That is on page E-5 and we're not at that page yet. If the Chair will permit me to go directly to that page, I can. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: I was trying to ask questions about this because it's right in his opening comments. If he wouldn't mind, I would prefer it now. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): We haven't gotten to the subject yet, but Minister Okalik, if you can answer this earlier rather than later.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are reviewing this as it relates to people who use this service by other northerners, particularly those with drug and alcohol addictions and end up in the court

system, which has set up programs specifically for them. These treatment programs are tailored to each individual's needs as deemed appropriate by judges. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you for that. Can you tell us, minister, if the wellness court will require its own chambers? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is still uncertain. The courthouse was built through the docket being dealt with through regular courts. We will have to review that again if we are going to establish wellness courts and that is what we are trying to prepare for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the minister. I appreciate him answering these questions about the wellness court. Can you also tell us how it will be decided when one must go through the wellness court versus the regular court? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at its structure, the courts usually determine whether they need to go through the

wellness court. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. For the remainder, I'll wait until we get to the page. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. We will go back to the page now. Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. E-3. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a quick question. One of the projects under this budget line is correctional centre furniture for the women's centre and it's talking about adding bunk beds to increase the facility's capacity.

As most people are aware and as we have been going through with the BCC issue of overcapacity all the time, there are sometimes security issues from inmates that are intended to be in individual accommodations. When they're forced to bunk together, it can create some personality conflicts. Are there going to be additional security methods taken to alleviate any potential security issues? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The official to my right, Mr. Stewart, will answer this one.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Stewart: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To briefly answer that, the Nunavut

Women's Correctional Centre is looking to purchase some bunk beds to replace the single beds currently installed. This does increase our capacity slightly. Unfortunately, the building is quite small, so this will help us handle capacity issues in the short term and will not have acquired any additional security measures at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Before we proceed, I would like to remind all members that if you are going to be asking questions, raise your hands so that I can see them clearly. Mr. Hickes, please continue.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also in that same line, it talks about a long-term solution (renovation/addition is currently being reviewed). I don't see any monies for an assessment of that project. Is that going to be done out of the \$700,000 that is being allocated under this budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Justice, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This relates more to the renovations needed at the Illavut Centre to be brought up to standards. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like my colleague, Mr. Savikataaq, mentioned in the last department that was in front of us, a lot of the information we have to go by is the

information that is provided to us. It does state in there that an addition is currently being reviewed. The minister just mentioned that it's just renovations that they're looking at. My question there is: so there will definitely not be an addition in the review of this facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We are on Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$700,000. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, hon. minister and your officials. My question relates to your opening statement. I want clarification on page 2 in English where it states that the office that is being worked on will be completed in the fall. Due to that, you are requesting \$50,000. Are you expecting that there will be deficiencies or that there might be deficiencies? This is the only question that I have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. That is on page E-7, but I'll leave it to the minister to respond. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is being completed. They always need to be inspected to ensure that they have been completed properly. If there are any deficiencies, they can be found through this process and then rectified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Enook, are you finished? Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have another question just following up on what my colleague, Mr. Hicke, was saying in regard to the Nunavut Women's Correctional Centre needing to have additional beds. Are you having an overcrowding issue at the Nunavut Women's Correctional Centre now? What's going on there that you're needing additional beds, yet the size of the building hasn't expanded or made bigger or anything? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are happy that we don't have an overcrowded women's correctional centre. However, we are just being proactive in looking toward the future in the event that more women get incarcerated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us how many women are currently incarcerated in that facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I don't have the detailed information in front me, but we do know that the facility is not filled to capacity. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$700,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) We are on page E-5. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Registries and Court Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$665,000. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the wellness court and the creation of space to allow it, has it been considered by the department to actually locate the wellness court in a different facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Justice, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier, the facility has space available. Once we find out more about whether we need to expand the Nunavut Court of Justice, we want to be open to that idea, so it's either way. If we need to expand it, we will have to expand it. We're planning for either way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister will have to forgive me. I don't know this Act inside and out. Will new legislation need to be passed in order for the government to establish a wellness court in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, we might have to. Looking at the process in the north, I believe that this can go forward. We're open to all aspects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At such time that that legislation is being reviewed, will there be an impact on the federal government's Bill C-10, with minimum sentencing requirements for specific crimes and sentencing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have no control over federal legislation. The people who are taken to the courts, it's usually at the discretion of the presiding judges. Therefore, it's possible in the north.

We can learn from the other jurisdictions, especially the Northwest Territories, who have just established a new program along those lines. I am very pleased that we're monitoring their process and we will determine if we too can have that wellness court in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Justice. Branch Summary. Registries and Court Services. E-5. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The courthouse is a fairly

new building. I'm wondering: to date, what kinds of renovations have you had to do on that building since you have opened it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): To date, there have not been too many renovations that we had to do, but it's becoming evident that the windows need to be worked on. Also, as I stated earlier, the judges don't have offices, especially the two. They will require office space. That means extra spending will be required, so that is why there is proposed funding for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Registries and Court Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$665,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Justice. Branch Summary. (interpretation ends) Corrections. E-7. Total Capital Expenditures. \$900,000. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the new relief facility that is going to be opening up fairly soon, the question that I've got is we've got a number of inmates that are in out-of-territory facilities in the Northwest Territories and southern Canada. With this new relief facility, when it's operational, will any of those inmates be repatriated to Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, some will be repatriated, but some inmates are considered high risk, so some inmates won't be moved.

It's quite hard to respond to your question. Sometimes the inmates complete their sentence. I cannot provide a detailed response because we have to deal with the inmates on a case-by-case basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I haven't had the pleasure of taking the tour of the overcrowding relief structure that was offered by the minister, so he will have to forgive my ignorance on the layout of it.

With the response to a written question provided last year in the last Assembly, some of the information in there is showing that three out of four adult males return into the correctional justice system. The program is a question to me.

I have recently spoken to an elder who works in the south with some of our inmates that are in southern institutions and he explained to me some of the programming that he and some of his partners provide in southern jurisdiction correction facilities.

I'm just wondering: is there space allocated in either BCC or the overcrowding relief structure for program services to assist our inmates to making healthier choices upon their release? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Makigiarvik, the relief structure, will have more programs available for those inmates who require that kind of program services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With that same topic in mind, one of the other statistics that came from that response to a written question last year was that only 61 percent of adult males take advantage of the programming that's in BCC.

Is there a way that your department can encourage inmates to participate in greater numbers so that we can alleviate some of that three out of four inmates returning back to the corrections system? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes. Makigiarvik, the relief structure, has more space and we will provide more programs to help the inmates to have healthy choices in life. Also, we know that the majority of the inmates usually have addiction issues and some usually have mental health issues. We will provide more programs for them at the Makigiarvik Centre. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: I think this may be my final question.

The department has indicated that there is the Nunavut Correctional Facility Strategy that has been completed by a consultant. Is that strategy going to be tabled in this House? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Justice, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that it was tabled previously, but I'll look into that and provide a response to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Forgive me if it was tabled already, Minister Okalik; I just don't recall seeing it.

If the Chairman will indulge me, I just have a comment to make. I realize that it's more to do with one of the previous line items that we already approved. It's an issue that I have brought up in the past with some the minor renovations that are going on with the small capital projects and minor capital.

I would really like to encourage the minister and his department to work with inmates within all the correctional facilities, youth, adults, and women, to take advantage of learning opportunities for those inmates so that they can do some of those minor projects that don't take professional skill certification or specific trades to not only reduce some

of their costs, but to provide some of these inmates with transferable skills outside of the correctional facility. That's just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I take that as a comment. Following my list of names, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is about outpost camps. I think, at some time, you had indicated that there are five outpost camps operating in Nunavut. Have you had any new ones open up since? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have not seen new ones. I, too, would like to see new ones. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If somebody was interested in the community, how do they go about letting your department know that they're interested and what kind of support can you provide them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have staff working at the local level that assist with people going to trial and they also help with getting paperwork done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Just to remind members to please keep your questions to the page under review. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Can you provide funding support to them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we provide capital support to purchase things like snowmobiles. We provide that kind of support. We pay for the costs using the number of inmates per day. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you have stated that you are looking, which communities are you looking into? (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): We welcome any one of the communities if they want to request and I know that it's very beneficial. If any one of you can provide any support, we would like to see any outpost camp established in either community of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Corrections. Total Capital Expenditures. \$900,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Go back to page E-2. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Justice. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$2,265,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Justice?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister Okalik, closing comments.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleagues for their comments and questions. It provides further direction for our department to address the concerns that were voiced. For that, I am very appreciative of the members who voice their concerns, as this helps us to address them in our future plans. We are always moving forward. I thank you all immensely.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials out of the witness table.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a motion to report progress at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now report progress. (interpretation) Thank you very much.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak (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 agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22.

Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for October 31:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions

5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
 6. Oral Questions
 7. Written Questions
 8. Returns to Written Questions
 9. Replies to Opening Address
 10. Petitions
 11. Responses to Petitions
 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
 13. Tabling of Documents
 14. Notices of Motions
 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
 16. Motions
 17. First Reading of Bills
 18. Second Reading of Bills
 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 4
 - Bill 5
 - 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 Friday, October 31, at 9:00 a.m.
- (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.
- >>*House adjourned at 17:07*

Appendix – October 30, 2014



Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts

Report on the Review of the 2012-2013 Annual Report and 2014-2018 Corporate Plan of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

**2nd Session of the 4th Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Fall 2014 Sitting**

**George Hickes, Chair
Alexander Sammurtok, Co-Chair
Tony Akoak, MLA
Pat Angnakak, MLA
Joe Enook, MLA
David Joanasie, MLA
Steve Mapsalak, MLA
Simeon Mikkungwak, MLA
Allan Rumbolt, MLA
Joe Savikataaq, MLA
Isaac Shooyook, MLA**

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Introduction

Subsection 35(3) and section 36 of the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* provide that:

Annual report

35. (3) The Corporation shall, within three months after the end of each fiscal year, prepare a report on the preceding fiscal year in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act*.

Tabling of report

36. The Minister shall table before the Legislative Assembly a copy of the report referred to in subsection 35(3) at the first session of the Legislative Assembly following the receipt of the report by the Minister.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2012-2013 annual report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 19, 2014. The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014-2018 corporate plan was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on June 12, 2014.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation plays a significant role in Nunavut's economy and the day-to-day lives of residents.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's current corporate plan anticipates that it will raise approximately \$135 million in revenue during the 2014-2015 fiscal year and spend approximately \$113 million on fuel and other operating expenses. The Qulliq Energy Corporation has approximately 200 positions in Nunavut's 25 communities.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's primary source of revenue is the sale of power to residential customers, businesses and other entities.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation differs from the government's departments and other major Crown agencies and territorial corporations insofar as its annual operations and maintenance budget and annual capital budget are not appropriated by the Legislative Assembly through the main estimates and capital estimates approval process.

This process, which is undertaken through the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly's Committee of the Whole, provides elected Members of the Legislative Assembly with the opportunity to directly question witnesses, in detail, on planned expenditures and initiatives, prior to voting on the requested appropriation.

Consequently, in the interest of transparency and accountability, the Standing Committee undertook to hold a hearing on the Qulliq Energy Corporation's most recently-tabled annual report and current corporate plan.

The September 23, 2014, hearing on the 2012-2013 annual report and 2014-2018 corporate plan of the Qulliq Energy Corporation took place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly.

The Standing Committee's hearing was televised live across the territory and was open to the public and news media to observe from the Visitors' Gallery. The transcript from the Standing Committee's hearing is available on the Legislative Assembly's website.

Chronology of Recent Events

- On October 30, 2007, *Ikummatiit: the Government of Nunavut's Energy Strategy*, was tabled in the Legislative Assembly.
- On November 1, 2007, the provisions in the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* providing for the creation of an Affordable Energy Fund came into force.
- On February 24, 2011, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2009-2010 report on contracting, procurement and leasing activities was tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation. As of October 20, 2014, annual reports for the 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 fiscal years have not yet been tabled.
- On July 1, 2012, responsibility for the Government of Nunavut's Energy Secretariat was transferred from the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.
- On October 23, 2012, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's *Action Plan in Response to the Auditor General of Canada's 2012 Report on Procurement of Goods and Services* was tabled in the Legislative Assembly.
- On September 17, 2013, the 2013-2014 Ministerial *Letter of Expectation* to the Chairperson of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Board of Directors and the Chairperson's response to the *Letter of Expectation* were tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister responsible for the Public Agencies Council.
- On November 1, 2013, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014 General Rate Application (GRA) was submitted to the Utility Rates Review Council (URRC).
- On November 7, 2013, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014 General Rate Application (GRA) was withdrawn.
- On November 28, 2013, the Premier announced the departure of the former President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peter Mackey, and the appointment of the new President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peter Ma. The formal notice of the appointment of the new President was published in Part I of the March 2014 edition of the *Nunavut Gazette*.
- On December 20, 2013, the Qulliq Energy Corporation re-submitted its 2014 General Rate Application (GRA) to the Utility Rates Review Council.
- On December 31, 2013, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's collective agreement with Nunavut Employees Union expired.

- On January 6, 2014, the former Chairperson of the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s Board of Directors issued a news release concerning his resignation and those of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors.
- On January 6, 2014, and May 9, 2014, new appointments to the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s Board of Directors were made. As of September 1, 2014, the members of the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s Board of Directors are:
 - David Omilgoetok, Chairperson (Cambridge Bay)
 - Julie-Anne Elizabeth Miller, Vice-Chairperson (Iqaluit)
 - Joshua Arreak (Pond Inlet)
 - Philip Clark (Mississauga, Ontario)
 - Elijah Evaluardjuk (Igloolik)
 - George Hickes (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
 - Roy Mullins (Chesterfield Inlet)
 - Nelson Pisco (Iqaluit)
 - T. Bert Rose (Iqaluit)
 - Allysha Sateana (Rankin Inlet)
- On January 29, 2014, the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation formally advised the Utility Rates Review Council by way of correspondence that the Minister had issued instructions to the QEC that would:
 - “1. To retract the instruction to move towards a territorial rate that was issued to QEC by a letter of instruction on February 20, 2012 from a former Minister responsible for QEC.
 2. To remove Phase II of QEC's 2014/15 General Rate Application, currently under review by the Utility Rates Review Council, and seek only implementation of Phase I component of the Application by way of an equal percentage across-the board increase to current rates. All customers would see the same percentage increase in their current rates.
 3. To file a Phase II General Rate Application that provides several Cost of Service study options for consideration in its next General Rate Application, that is expected to be submitted by 2018.”
- On February 14, 2014, the Qulliq Energy Corporation filed amendments to its General Rate Application.
- On March 19, 2014, the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation announced in the Legislative Assembly that the corporation’s 2014 General Rate Application (GRA) had been modified to “retract the move to a territorial rate.” Additional amendments to the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s General Rate Application were filed with the Utility Rates Review Council on this date.

- On March 19, 2014, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2012-2013 annual report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.
- On April 28, 2014, the Utility Rates Review Council's Report to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation on the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014 General Rate Application (GRA) was submitted.
- On May 16, 2014, the Utility Rates Review Council's Final Report to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation on the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014 General Rate Application (GRA) was submitted.
- On May 30, 2014, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's revised *Terms and Conditions of Service* came into effect.
- On June 3, 2014, the Qulliq Energy Corporation publicly announced that it had been authorized to impose an increase in base rates of 7.1%, effective May 1, 2014, to all customer classes and communities.
- On June 12, 2014, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014-2018 corporate plan was tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Observations and Recommendations

Issue: Corporate Governance

During the Standing Committee's September 23, 2014, hearing on the 2012-2013 annual report and 2014-2018 corporate plan of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Members raised a number of questions concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation's governance framework. It is important to note that the following observations concern matters distinct from the regulatory processes that are prescribed by the *Utility Rates Review Council Act*.

Members noted that there are a number of entities and individuals that have roles within the corporation's governance framework, including:

- The Chairperson and members of the Board of Directors of the Qulliq Energy Corporation;
- The Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation;
- The President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation;
- The Financial Management Board;
- The Executive Council; and
- The Public Agencies Council.

However, there has been a lack of public clarity as to where the final decision-making authority rests with respect to such matters as the:

- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's multi-year corporate plans;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's strategic plans;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's annual reports;
- Approval of the annual Ministerial *Letter of Expectation* to the Chairperson of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Board of Directors;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's annual operations and maintenance budget;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's annual and multi-year capital plans and budgets;
- Approval of tentative collective agreements with the Nunavut Employees Union;
- Appointment of the President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation; and
- Appointment of the Chairperson and members of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Board of Directors.

To illustrate this ambiguity, section 12 of the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* provides that:

President

12. (1) There shall be a president of the Corporation appointed by the Minister, on the recommendation of the Board.

Remuneration

(2) The Minister shall, on the recommendation of the Board, fix the remuneration and other terms and conditions of employment of the president.

On November 28, 2013, the Premier of Nunavut formally announced the departure of the former President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation and the appointment of a new President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation. The formal notice of the appointment of the new President was published in Part I of the March 2014 edition of the *Nunavut Gazette*. On September 26, 2014, the Premier of Nunavut formally announced the appointment of a new President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation. The extent to which these appointments were made in conformity with section 12 of the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* is not entirely clear.

In 2011, the *Nunavut Housing Corporation Act* was amended by the Legislative Assembly to require the establishment of an audit committee of the corporation's board of directors. The legislation provides that:

Audit committee

(3) The Board shall establish an audit committee to ensure the critical and objective oversight of the Corporation's

(a) standards of integrity and behaviour;

(b) reporting of financial information; and

(c) practices of strategic management and financial control.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that the role of the Board Governance and Policy Committee of the Board of Directors is to "update Board governance and operating policies."

Standing Committee Recommendation #1:

The Standing Committee recommends that the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* be amended to require the establishment of an audit committee of the corporation's board of directors. These amendments should parallel, to the greatest practicable extent, the 2011 amendments to the *Nunavut Housing Corporation Act*.

The Standing Committee further recommends that all approved governance and operating policies of the Board of Directors of the Qulliq Energy Corporation be tabled in the Legislative Assembly as soon as practicable.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report clarify, in detail, the respective authorities of the Chairperson and members of the Board of Directors of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, the President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, the Financial Management Board, the Executive Council and the Public Agencies Council with respect to the:

- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's multi-year corporate plans;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's strategic plans;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's annual reports;
- Approval of the annual Ministerial *Letter of Expectation* to the Chairperson of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Board of Directors;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's annual operations and maintenance budget;
- Approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's annual and multi-year capital plans and budgets;
- Approval of tentative collective agreements with the Nunavut Employees Union;
- Appointment of the President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation; and
- Appointment of the Chairperson and members of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Board of Directors.

Issue: Qulliq Energy Corporation's Contracting, Procurement and Leasing Activities

On February 24, 2011, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2009-2010 annual report on contracting, procurement and leasing activities was tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation. On October 21, 2014, the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 annual reports on contracting, procurement and leasing activities were tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

It is noteworthy that the 2013-2014 Ministerial *Letter of Expectation* to the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Qulliq Energy Corporation instructed the corporation to prepare for tabling in the Legislative Assembly a "comprehensive report on all procurement, contracting and leasing activities undertaken by the Qulliq Energy Corporation."

On October 23, 2012, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's *Action Plan in Response to the Auditor General of Canada's 2012 Report on Procurement of Goods and Services* was tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

An ongoing issue that has not been resolved is the extent to which the Government of Nunavut's NNI Policy applies to the contracting, procurement and leasing activities of the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Although the corporation's 2009-2010 report on contracting, procurement and leasing activities indicates that the NNI Policy was applied by the corporation during that fiscal year, testimony provided by the corporation's former President on the occasion of the consideration of the Auditor General of Canada's 2012 *Report on Procurement of Goods and Services* indicated that the corporation considered itself to be exempt from the NNI Policy on the grounds that "following the NNI Policy increases the cost of operating the utility. This cost is passed on to customers in the electricity rates."

In response to Members' questions on this issue during the Standing Committee's September 23, 2014, hearing, the President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation stated that:

"Right now, part of the Government of Nunavut's NNI review committee that was struck by the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. So we have been part of that whole review process. I think it's the view of the Minister and certainly the board to see somehow that we implement NNI within the corporation. At this point, I can't tell you when, but we've been very actively engaged with that review process."

Standing Committee Recommendation #2:

The Standing Committee recommends that the Qulliq Energy Corporation's annual contracting, procurement and leasing reports for the 2010-2011 and 2013-2014 fiscal years be tabled in the Legislative Assembly as soon as practicable.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update on the status of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's implementation of its *Action Plan in Response to the Auditor General of Canada's 2012 Report on Procurement of Goods and Services*.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report clarify the extent to which the NNI Policy applies to the Qulliq Energy Corporation's contracting, procurement and leasing activities.

Issue: Qulliq Energy Corporation’s Organizational Design and Inuit Employment Initiatives

The Qulliq Energy Corporation’s 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that the corporation has a total of 194 positions, 174 of which were filled as of March 31, 2014. Although the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s “headquarters” is located in Baker Lake, its “directorate” is located in Iqaluit. The majority of the corporation’s executive and senior management positions are located in Iqaluit. This situation is analogous to that of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, which has a “headquarters” located in Arviat and a “directorate” located in Iqaluit.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation’s 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that it had a total of 7 senior management positions as of March 31, 2014. 6 of these positions were filled and one was vacant. No senior management positions were filled by beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation’s 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that it had a total of 24 middle management positions as of March 31, 2014. 21 of these positions were filled and three were vacant. Three middle management positions were filled by beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

During the Standing Committee’s September 23, 2014, hearing, a number of questions were asked by Members concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s organizational design and Inuit employment initiatives. With respect to the issue of relocating the corporation’s executive and senior management positions to its headquarters in Baker Lake, testimony from the President of the Qulliq Energy Corporation indicated that:

“... that’s a decision for Executive Council to make. I think, in all honesty, we’re maybe a bit early in our development as a government. Certainly it’s always been the intention and the dream when Nunavut was created to decentralize as many positions to the communities as well so they can gain the economic opportunities and employment and training opportunities. At this point in time, my honest answer to you is I don’t know when but hopefully someday in the near future that would happen.”

Standing Committee Recommendation #3:

The Standing Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut’s response to this report provide a detailed timeline for the achievement of a fully representative workforce for each of the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s six occupational categories.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut’s response to this report provide a detailed timeline for the relocation of the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s executive and senior management positions to its headquarters in Baker Lake.

Issue: Capital Planning, Hydroelectric Development and Wind Energy

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that "due to a lack of corporate and private ratepayers, there is an inability to charge suitable rates to generate the necessary revenue in small communities to properly fund the required maintenance and capital improvements to the power infrastructure. The corporation continues to address the lack of revenue by filing General Rate Applications and Fuel Stabilization Rider applications, and requesting the Government of Nunavut to cover Fuel Stabilization Rider shortfalls."

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2012-2013 annual report indicated that the corporation was in the process of "securing additional borrowing of \$74,000,000 to fund capital expenditures over a three-year period from 2013 to 2015."

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-2015 fiscal year has been to "develop a 40-year long-term capital planning document identifying major capital projects." It also indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-2015 fiscal year has been to "identify power plant replacement priorities for the next 5-year capital plan."

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's response to its 2013-2014 Ministerial *Letter of Expectation* stated that "there is an immediate need to replace 17 power plants in the next decade."

In its April 28, 2014, report concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation's recent General Rate Application, the Utility Rates Review Council noted that the Qulliq Energy Corporation has been "actively seeking diverse approaches to financing its infrastructure requirements," including the use of Public-Private Partnerships (P3s).

In its April 28, 2014, report concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation's recent General Rate Application, the Utility Rates Review Council also raised concerns regarding the significant differences between what the corporation planned to spend on its Iqaluit main power plant expansion and distribution system upgrade projects, and the actual costs of these capital projects. The Utility Rates Review Council stated that the increases in costs for these capital projects provided "grossly misleading signals to customers of the QEC." It also indicated that "[cost] overruns of 43% and 58% are clearly outside acceptable norms."

On October 30, 2007, *Ikummatiit: the Government of Nunavut's Energy Strategy*, was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. *Ikummatiit* indicated that the Qulliq Energy Corporation and the Petroleum Products Division of the Department of Community and Government Services would be "reviewing the[ir] business and working relationship."

In its April 28, 2014, report concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation's recent General Rate Application, the Utility Rates Review Council also raised concerns regarding the Qulliq Energy Corporation's current fuel storage capacity in Nunavut communities. In its

report, it noted that “in Iqaluit alone, the shortage of fuel tank capacity caused QEC to incur additional charges from February 2013 forward, which, on an annualized basis, would amount to a fuel cost increase of more than \$1.0 million.”

The Qulliq Energy Corporation’s 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that one of its current initiatives to “reduce Nunavut’s dependence on fossil fuels” is the “creation of an Arctic Wind Test facility in Arviat.”

The Qulliq Energy Corporation’s 2012-2013 annual report indicated that “Wind monitoring equipment was erected in Cape Dorset in the fall of 2012. The data being collected is currently being analyzed over a 12-month period to gain an understanding of the actual wind potential for the Cape Dorset site. The 12 month collection of data is the first step required for any further development of a wind site.”

In its April 28, 2014, report concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s recent General Rate Application, the Utility Rates Review Council noted that the Qulliq Energy Corporation has had “discussions with a potential mine, Agnico-Eagle, in Rankin Inlet to share the diesel generation plant costs in the community.”

During the Standing Committee’s September 23, 2014, hearing, a number of questions were asked by Members concerning work being undertaken under the auspices of the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Roundtable with respect to hydroelectric power transmission from Manitoba to the Kivalliq, as well as the status of hydroelectric development in the vicinity of Iqaluit.

Standing Committee Recommendation #4:

The Standing Committee recommends that the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s 40-Year Capital Planning Document that is referenced in its 2014-2018 corporate plan be tabled in the Legislative Assembly no later than March 31, 2015.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut’s response to this report provide a detailed update concerning what specific actions have been taken by the Qulliq Energy Corporation to address the capital planning deficiencies that were noted by the Utility Rates Review Council in reference to the Iqaluit main power plant expansion and distribution system upgrade projects.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut’s response to this report provide a detailed update concerning what specific actions have been taken by the Qulliq Energy Corporation to address the fuel storage capacity issues that were noted by the Utility Rates Review Council in its April 28, 2014, report concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation’s recent General Rate Application.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update concerning what current or planned initiatives are, or will be, undertaken by the Qulliq Energy Corporation and the Petroleum Products Division of the Department of Community and Government Services with respect to fuel pricing, fuel purchases and other areas in which the entities have contractual or working relationships.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update concerning the Qulliq Energy Corporation's ongoing and planned initiatives with respect to the use of Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) for the purpose of power plant construction and/or alternative energy development.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update concerning work being undertaken under the auspices of the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Roundtable with respect to hydroelectric power transmission from Manitoba to the Kivalliq.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update concerning the status of hydroelectric development in the vicinity of Iqaluit.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update concerning the status of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Arctic Wind Test facility in Arviat.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update concerning the status of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's wind energy test project in Cape Dorset.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed update concerning the status of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's discussions with Agnico-Eagle Mines concerning power generation issues in the Kivalliq.

Issue: Affordable Energy Fund

Section 39.1 of the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* provides that:

Affordable Energy Fund

39.1. (1) There shall be established in the accounts of Nunavut an account to be known as the "Affordable Energy Fund".

Purpose

(2) The purpose of the Fund is to hold money appropriated to it in order, directly or indirectly, to subsidize the cost of energy or otherwise make energy more affordable.

Part of Consolidated Revenue Fund

(3) The Fund forms a part of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Credits to Fund

(4) There shall be credited to the Fund all money appropriated to the Fund to directly or indirectly subsidize the cost of energy or otherwise make energy more affordable.

Transfers from Fund

(5) The Minister may, by order, authorize the transfer of money from the Affordable Energy Fund to fulfill the purpose of the Fund, and may include in the order any conditions the Minister considers necessary on the use of the money.

On November 1, 2007, the provisions in the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* providing for the creation of an Affordable Energy Fund came into force.

On October 30, 2007, *Ikummatiit: the Government of Nunavut's Energy Strategy*, was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. *Ikummatiit* stated in part that:

"The GN's energy-subsidy programs are multi-layered and complex, making it difficult to monitor and track energy subsidies. As a result, the true cost of meeting Nunavut's energy demand is difficult to ascertain. Most Nunavummiut do not know the true level of subsidization because of this complexity. The general lack of public knowledge of the high level of subsidization is one reason why the Government is urged to increase subsidies when energy prices rise, as they have over the last several years. An affordable energy fund would include a tracking and reporting mechanism. It may also include the management of direct and indirect subsidies."

Ikummatiit also stated that:

"The Government of Nunavut will proclaim legislation creating an Affordable Energy Fund on November 1, 2007. The Affordable Energy Fund will be managed by the Department of Finance. Funding will be made available for

alternative energy and efficiency projects. In addition, the department will track direct and indirect energy subsidies.”

The formal *Mission Statement* of the Qulliq Energy Corporation is as follows:

“QEC provides safe, reliable and efficient electricity and plans long-term, affordable energy for Nunavummiut.”

However, the extent to which the Affordable Energy Fund has been utilized remains unclear. In response to Members’ questions on this issue during the Standing Committee’s September 23, 2014, hearing, the president of the Qulliq Energy Corporation stated that:

“To my knowledge, there is zero in that affordable energy fund at this point in time ... back in my day as the Deputy [Minister] of Finance, I think that responsibility ended up being with Finance. I don’t know why, but I think it did. I don’t actually currently know where it sits, but I think it’s back to QEC ... it has obviously sat dormant for the last five, six, or seven years, I guess, and we need to do something with it.”

Standing Committee Recommendation #5:

The Standing Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut’s response to this report clarify which department, Crown agency or territorial corporation is responsible for administering the Affordable Energy Fund under section 39.1 of the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act*.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut’s response to this report clarify, in detail, the specific factors that have accounted for no funds having been appropriated to date for the purpose of administering the provisions of section 39.1 of the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act*.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut’s response to this report clarify, in detail, its short-, medium- and long-term plans with respect to the administration of the Affordable Energy Fund.

Issue: Contaminated Sites

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2012-2013 annual report indicated that:

“Significant environmental costs have been identified by the corporation; however, a provision for environmental liabilities was not recognized because the corporation believes it is not responsible for these remediation costs. A provision for environmental liabilities will be accrued in the financial statements if it is determined that the corporation is liable for the remediation of a site that is contaminated.”

The Qulliq Energy Corporation's 2014-2018 corporate plan indicates that it has:

“... inventoried its sites for environmental issues, and has two full-time staff from the health, safety and environment department engaged in prevention and remediation. The corporation is anticipating that the federal government will take responsibility for remediation of these inherited sites.”

Significant discussion took place during the Standing Committee's September 23, 2014, hearing concerning the issue of contaminated sites that were inherited from the federal Northern Canada Power Commission. The Standing Committee is disappointed at the lack of federal willingness to accept responsibility for site remediation costs.

Standing Committee Recommendation #6:

The Standing Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed inventory of contaminated sites that were inherited from the federal Northern Canada Power Commission, and that this inventory include a detailed description of the nature and extent of the contamination at each site.

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Government of Nunavut's response to this report provide a detailed chronology of formal communications that have taken place since April 1, 1999, between the Qulliq Energy Corporation and the Government of Canada concerning the issue of remediation of contaminated sites that were inherited from the federal Northern Canada Power Commission.