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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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Minister of Languages; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness*

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Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

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(Iqaluit-Manirajak)
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Isaac Shooyook
(Quttiktuq)

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Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday, March 9, 2016

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk, Mr. Joe Enook, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasi, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Mr. Paul Okalik, Hon. Keith Peterson, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Mr. Tom Sammurtok, Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna.

>>*House commenced at 13:29*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good day, my fellow Nunavummiut. Members, ministers, (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) and visitors, welcome to the House.

Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 083 – 4(3):
Caribou Habitat and Restricted Development

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut.

Mr. Speaker, in 2014, as Members of this Assembly, we had our Full Caucus retreat in Kugluktuk. By consensus, we agreed upon the vision for this government.

Mr. Speaker, we agreed in *Sivumut Abluqta* that we would apply sound regulatory processes to development and ensure that a sound wildlife management system is in place to benefit Nunavummiut. We want to safeguard harmony and balance in this vision. Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut does not and will not support projects that have a negative impact on our wildlife that cannot be mitigated.

>>*Applause*

We want to engage the regulatory process and ensure regulators are able to do the job they are tasked with under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. The regulatory process would include environmental, wildlife, and socio-economic assessments by Nunavut's regulatory agencies. It also includes the federal licensing process.

Mr. Speaker, the Hudson Bay roundtable has stated that they would like to move forward on feasibility studies for an electrical transmission line in the Kivalliq region. If, for example, this project were to fall within calving or post calving grounds and corridors, we would expect a full regulatory review of the project and sound decisions on restrictions in order to protect the natural habitat. That process would include public consultations. There would be input from affected communities. If the concerns of the regulatory agencies are not met by the developer, then there would be no transmission line permit

and the project as proposed would not be approved.

Prohibition on calving and post-calving grounds with seasonal restrictions would rule out any kind of review of a project. It means there may be no transmission line for the Kivalliq region.

Mr. Speaker, restrictions ensures a full project review takes place. Mr. Speaker, prohibition means there would be no review and no potential for development. I want to make it clear that restrictions ensure a complete project review is conducted. Prohibition means that there will be no review and we want to follow the intent of our regulatory agencies.

Mr. Speaker, no development is not the purpose of our land claims agreement. The purpose is to have regulators involved. Development projects can ultimately be rejected by the regulatory bodies and that is why it is important to allow for developers to engage in that process.

Mr. Speaker, it is up to Nunavummiut and Inuit to decide what developments can occur on our lands. It is up to us to put restrictions in place and ensure that any development follows our rules and regulatory process. That is why we have these regulatory boards within our land claims agreement.

Mr. Speaker, wildlife protection is essential. We have one of the best polar bear management plans in the world. We imposed the first ever moratorium on caribou harvesting on Baffin Island and have since allowed for limited harvesting.

Mr. Speaker, simply put, we need to balance protection on a case-by-case basis with development through our regulatory processes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 181 – 4(3): Literacy Initiative at Jonah Amitnaaq Secondary School

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I deliver my Member's Statement, I wish to make a brief correction.

During Monday's sitting, I tabled a document concerning the issue of remote air service. In my excitement to table this important item, I inadvertently referred to "Kivalliq Air" having appeared before us during January's televised meeting of the Full Caucus. Mr. Speaker, I, of course, should have said, "Calm Air."

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mikkungwak: Mr. Speaker, I will try to be calmer today.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share some very good news with my colleagues and all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, the Jonah Amitnaaq Secondary School in my home community of beautiful Baker Lake was awarded one of this year's "Tech Grants" from Best Buy Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I will take a moment to read from the official announcement of this award, which indicates that the recipients "...will use their grant to support student literacy by providing learning opportunities that will allow students to be as successful as their peers while living in a far north locale. With their School Tech Grant, Grade 9 students will gain additional access to essential tools including laptops, e-readers and document cameras, and will be empowered to explore all the diverse and interesting reading materials the literary world has to offer."

Mr. Speaker, there are few gifts as great as the gift of literacy. Literacy is the foundation of learning and the key to achieving educational success.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the following students at Jonah Amitnaaq for the work that they put into writing a successful proposal. My apologies if I have omitted anyone.

The students are Hattie Amitnaak, Crystal Haqpi, Carla Rose Kaayak, Dylan Nanooklook, Brianna Niego...

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude my statement. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to all my colleagues.

As I indicated earlier, the students that I would like to recognize are as follows: Hattie Amitnaak, Crystal Haqpi, Carla Rose Kaayak, Dylan Nanooklook, Brianna Niego, Nanuurluk Noah, Sipporah Nukik, and Joseph Owingayak.

Mr. Speaker, I have been advised that most of the award will be used to facilitate the students' purchase of eBooks and I understand that around 70 e-readers will be provided to the school.

Mr. Speaker, I want to publicly thank Best Buy Canada for being a solid corporate citizen and supporting schools and students across the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to pay tribute to Bethany Guther, who teaches at Jonah Amitnaaq, for her leadership in this endeavour.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in celebrating this accomplishment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 182 – 4(3): Lip Service to Nunavut Elders

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good afternoon" to the people of Nunavut watching and listening to the proceedings, as well as my colleagues.

Due to limitations on my time, I want to briefly explain as today is when I do have the time. I rise today to make an announcement with respect to our Nunavut elders.

During our sessions within this House, we commonly listen to announcements about protecting our elders. To me, this is nothing more than lip service as they are just wordy pronouncements.

I rise to speak on behalf of our elders, who are undergoing stressful times in their lives. I refer to the statement about this matter by our elders, "When will the actual implementation of our land claims agreement ever be realized?" When the NLCA first passed, we were told that Inuit would reclaim their traditions. When will we ever see this promise delivered?

I understand the contents of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* completely. It is an agreement between the Government of Canada and Inuit, where Inuit were provided rights in exchange for lands. This is the foundation I am using to try to implement Inuit traditions. Perhaps we were misled by our leaders who pushed for this agreement.

This is the article I refer to: Article 34, which speaks to Ethnographic Objects and Archival Materials. It states that Inuit have the right, agreed to by the Government of Canada, to try to revive their culture. In my opinion, this is the reason that our elders were misled when they were told that it included this right and they celebrated that fact. I was party to those celebrations for the completion of this agreement and for getting the Territory of Nunavut. With that being

the case, today, we have yet to see the full implementation of these provisions.

Mr. Speaker, our elders require further stewardship from us to try to realize the wishes they hold and to try to implement them within our government. They are our leaders who provide direction and they correct us when we go wrong.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member Isaac Shooyook is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? I don't hear any nays. Mr. Shooyook, please proceed.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you very much, my colleagues.

In memory of our elders who have passed on, we have to try to implement their wishes today.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why I am so fervent about our elders is to ensure we revive and repatriate our traditional counselling and to showcase the breadth of knowledge and wisdom they hold, as I have worked with many elders and they are extremely skilled.

Mr. Speaker, today when employment opportunities are created, the true Inuit elders are prevented from participating in our workforce. Instead, the requirements written state that those applicants must be functionally bilingual in Inuktitut and English. This is particularly cruel to my person, as these elders don't require any training in social counselling as they have lived the

traditional life and experienced life's challenges. They don't require any further training. This applies to social services, our correction system, and *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*. We have to be able to tell them that yes, they do qualify so that they can provide counselling services to the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, when we were talking about the elders, I indicated that I would fully support them. This is going to be the last time that I bring this issue up in the House because I now look forward to the government listening and responding.

I am given full support. People tell me that all the time. It has been three years since I first brought this subject up of *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* and that elders can participate in the whole process. It is something that is very important to me. This is going to be the last time that I bring it up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 183 – 4(3):
Speaking Out Against
Discrimination**

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against discrimination and prejudice.

Mr. Speaker, it is tragic that discrimination and prejudice persists in our society today.

Mr. Speaker, later this month, the world will recognize the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Other events throughout the year mark ongoing efforts to combat discrimination and prejudice based on gender, religion, sexual orientation, and other characteristics that represent the beauty and wonder of human diversity.

Mr. Speaker, here in Nunavut, discrimination and prejudice can take many forms.

I want to take a moment to recount a recent personal experience.

Just a few months ago, I was at the airport waiting for a flight to Kimmirut, which is one of the two communities that I have the honour in representing in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I could not believe my ears when I heard an individual ask one of the waiting passengers where they were heading to that day.

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

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

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

They were asked where they were heading. When the reply came back,

“Kimmirut,” the individual proceeded to ask, “Well, what did you do wrong?” Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and outraged at this attitude.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut is unique in the nation. Unlike larger jurisdictions which are dominated by their major urban centres, the majority of Nunavummiut live in smaller communities. Mr. Speaker, I believe that we are the only Canadian jurisdiction where 75 to 80 percent of people live in communities other than the major centre.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have been raised in a small community, and I want to say clearly today to the thousands of Nunavummiut who live and work and raise families in small communities, “You have nothing to apologize for and you have nothing to be ashamed of.”

Mr. Speaker, during my recent public meetings in Kimmirut and Cape Dorset, I heard a number of concerns being raised about the need for the government to make a clear commitment to the long-term sustainability of our smaller communities. I will have questions on this issue at the appropriate time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to close by inviting my fellow members to join me in taking a stand against discrimination and prejudice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation) Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak.

Member’s Statement 184 – 4(3): Problems with Medical Travel for Elders

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to advocate for our elders.

I feel overwhelmingly protective of our elders, much like certain animal rights activists who advocate for wildlife, but in my case, I am very protective of our elders. Furthermore, this includes people with disabilities and those less able than us or who are not mobile. In particular, I get very defensive of our elders and I wish to assist them whenever I can.

Mr. Speaker, I have noted more than once where an elder requiring assistance from one of my two constituency communities has come down on medical travel. There are still many problematic issues with medical travel, Mr. Speaker.

This elder, who is a fellow resident of my community, came in on medical travel and he was checked into the Tammaativvik Boarding Home. Since the boarding home was full, this aged elder was checked in to sleep on the floor, with only a folding mattress to rest on, as no rooms were available.

Furthermore, the other elder from Clyde River, one of my constituency communities, underwent the same disregard for their age. That elder was checked into the Tammaativvik Boarding Home and he is quite old. As a matter of fact, he is the oldest male citizen of Clyde River. Since the boarding home was full, he was provided with just a folding bed stationed in one of the spare rooms.

This selfsame person works for the Piqqusilirivvik Inuit Cultural Learning Centre. Here I thought that Piqqusilirivvik was under the auspices of this government. Further, any employees of institutions under the government should have the same benefit as the public servants to be placed in a hotel for medical travel, particularly when the Tammaativvik Boarding Home is full. If the Piqqusilirivvik Inuit Cultural Learning Centre is under this government, their employees should be treated like any government employee. I became very defensive of this person when I heard their plight.

The other person I referred to who is from Qikiqtarjuaq is over 65 years old and has never once been approved for an escort.

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

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

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

As I was saying, these two aged people who are quite elderly were treated with seeming disdain. We were also led to understand that residents on medical travel can have escorts if they are 65 years of age or older, even if the approval isn't forthcoming. This person I am referencing is way over 65, yet they have never been provided with an escort.

There needs to be more thought given to the way our elders are treated, particularly those on medical travel.

Further, this person I spoke about who is one of the oldest residents of Clyde River, when he arrived for his appointment, he was placed in a storeroom or a stock room. Elders on medical travel require better care.

To top it off, the other elder I referred to was not provided with an interpreter for their appointment. Lucky for them, my wife happened to be visiting a sick relative and was seconded to act as the interpreter for that elder. This illustrates the lack of respect for our elders who are on medical travel and I have been moved to advocate on their behalf.

At the appropriate time, I will be asking questions, looking at what is in practice today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Members' Statements. Hon. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq.

Member's Statement 185 – 4(3): Inuit Language Preservation

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be making a statement on languages and I will make my statement in English. Although I am one of the people committed to preserving our language, our young people today use English and understand it better. If even one person can understand about this issue, then that would be very gratifying.

I say "good day" to my colleagues, the audience listening in, as well as those

watching the televised proceedings, along with my fellow Netsilingmiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today address the important issue of language preservation, protection, and promotion.

Mr. Speaker, during the recent by-election campaign in Netsilik, I received many concerns from residents about the issue of language.

Mr. Speaker, I want to focus my comments today on the needs of our oldest residents and the needs of our youngest residents.

Mr. Speaker, the elders in Kugaaruk and Taloyoak are very proud of the unique dialect that is spoken in our part of the territory.

Mr. Speaker, we live in a time when too many indigenous languages around the world are disappearing.

As the newly elected MLA for Netsilik, I strongly support measures to preserve and protect our own language.

I am also committed to ensuring that elders, especially those who are unilingual, receive government services in their own language. This is especially important when it comes to medical travel that takes our elders outside of their home communities.

Mr. Speaker, I spoke last week about the importance of providing a solid foundation for our youth. Part of that foundation is an education system that ensures that our youth are proficient in both the Inuit language and English.

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

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

Mr. Qirngnuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that there are different perspectives about how to most effectively ensure that the Inuit language is taught effectively in our schools.

However, I am confident that we can all agree that our youth should be confident in both languages. Our youth should be equally comfortable conversing with their grandparents in their ancestral tongue as they are when using today's modern technology to communicate with people from around the world in today's global language.

I will have questions on the issue of language preservation, protection, and promotion to the appropriate minister before the end of our winter sitting.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Steve Mapsalak.

Member's Statement 186 – 4(3): Coral Harbour Peewee Hockey Team

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last month, there was a hockey tournament in Rankin Inlet. It was a peewee hockey tournament, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the Coral Harbour hockey team came in first place. It was very good to watch peewee hockey games.

I also would like to say that I am very proud of the team players and I am very proud of the fact that they won. They are: David Pee, Darrian [Natakok], Esa Kolit, Chase Harron, Owen Angootealuk, Micah Emiktowt, Roger Matoo, Ramsey Eetuk, Douglas Jr. Pameolik, Prime Paniyuk, Justin Eetuk, Russell Matoo, Camille Siutinar, and the coaches are Ross Eetuk and Roger Siutinar.

In addition, last month, there was the Polar Bear Plate hockey tournament. The team from Coral Harbour came in second place. The team members were: Jacob Nakoolak, Sandy Jr. Saviakjuk, Ruben Saviakjuk, Saimonie Saviakjuk, Wesley Siutinar, Ethan Matoo, Richard Netser, Joe Bruce Nakoolak, Bradley Kaludjak, Kevin Jr. Angootealuk, Clifford Jr. Natakok, Aiden Saviakjuk, Joey Angootealuk, and their coach, Royden Eetuk.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the team players for winning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Members' Statements. Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Member's Statement 187 – 4(3): Team Nunavut Curlers

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my constituents at Iqaluit-Manirajak.

I rise today to recognize some of the achievements of some of the extraordinary athletes that made curling history last month.

February 17 curling at the Tournament of Hearts hosted by Grande Prairie, the team from Iqaluit rallied to an 8-7 victory in the first draw of the pre-qualifying round.

>>Applause

This makes history for the team because, although they didn't make it out during what's called the "regulation round," I am extremely proud of them. It's quite an achievement.

Team members included Skip Geneva Chislett, who I'm proud to say is my neighbour, led by Jenine Bodner, second Robyn Mackey, third Denise Hutchins, and they brought with them a young alternate, Sadie Pinksen, along with Coach Donald Mattie.

Sadie Pinksen, earlier this year, skipped and made history too by recording the territory's first victory at the national championship called "Canadian Junior Championships."

These victories are important as Iqaluit has the only curling rink operating in Nunavut this year. There are not a lot of women here that play curling. To compete, they have to play mixed curling with men, and if they wanted to go to a bonspiel, they would have to raise a lot of money and the next closest place to compete would be Ottawa.

Please join me, colleagues, in congratulating my constituents in their amazing accomplishment. Thank you,

Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 188 – 4(3): The Ongoing Success of Nunavut Speed Skating

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to everybody.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise today to applaud and congratulate Speed Skating Nunavut's recent and past success and look forward to even more successes in the future.

Mr. Speaker, last weekend, March 5 and 6, members of the Iqaluit Speed Skating Club won four gold medals, two silver medals, and a bronze at the 2016 Citadel Cup in Tantallon, Nova Scotia.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the gold medal winners Alec Brillon, Taryn Lavallee, Eliane Brillon, and Sophie Dubeau; silver medal winners Emma Carpenter and Olivia Ashley; and bronze medal winner Akutaq Williamson-Bathory.

This success builds on previous medal wins this season at the eastern Ontario Regional Meet in Ottawa and at the Atlantic Cup in Charlottetown, PEI.

Mr. Speaker, Speed Skating Nunavut builds on a long pedigree of success. Since winning Nunavut's very first Arctic Winter Games ulu in 2000, Nunavut Speed Skaters have won over 65 AWG ulus.

Speed Skating Nunavut was also the first sport chosen to represent Nunavut at the Canada Winter Games and has been at every Games since then.

Mr. Speaker, over the years, Nunavut's speed skaters have medalled at meets in Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and PEI as well as winning a national medal at the Canada East Championships.

Our speed skaters are looking forward to participating once again in the Arctic Winter Games in 2018 and at the Canada Winter Games in 2019.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating our speed skaters on their success, both past and present, and wishing them ongoing success in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statement. Member for Rankin and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Member's Statement 189 – 4(3): Constituent Wins Gold Ulu at Arctic Winter Games

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the people from Chesterfield Inlet and I was just recently told about this when the session began. I believe and trust the person who told me.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nunavut won gold this morning in the Alaskan High Kick. I was just informed of this after I sat down in my chair here this afternoon. I'm especially

proud because Dion Tanuyak-Qullugiaq is from Chesterfield Inlet and is a son of my niece. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize individuals and I know that they are very close to my community, but I rarely ever see them. My colleagues, let's welcome Manu Nattar and Rita Nattar from Whale Cove.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 236 – 4(3): Strategy for Nunavut Elders

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Premier. He's also the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and the

Minister responsible for Seniors.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that there is a great need for services and supports for Nunavut's elders. A number of my colleagues have spoken passionately about the need for elder care, the need to prevent elder abuse, and many other concerns that face our elders.

As you will know from my statement last week, I am part of an exciting initiative to establish a new elders facility in Iqaluit. Unfortunately, our government does not appear to have a strategy in place to address the many issues facing elders today.

Can the minister provide an update on what he has been doing as the Minister responsible for Seniors Advocate to coordinate and oversee programs and services for seniors across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, I took it upon myself to advocate on behalf of the seniors. As members are well aware, there are many departments that have seniors programs within their departments, including the corporations. I took it upon myself to ensure that there's proper coordination of seniors programs throughout this government. At this point, we're coming up with a binder, a book that's going to be distributed throughout Nunavut on all the government seniors programs.

Mr. Speaker, again, there are many departments that have got programs

within the departments and I want to ensure that all these programs can be accessed through my office for the seniors within Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier his response. It was leading right into my second question.

Other places in the territories do have this binder and there's one here from the Northwest Territories. Can the Premier tell us when he expects to have such a binder ready for the seniors in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I do want to get that binder out to our communities throughout Nunavut as soon as possible. I'm encouraging my officials to ensure that it is ready by spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's wonderful to hear. We will look forward to seeing that.

Mr. Speaker, in January 2015, the Pairijait Tigummiagtukkut Society passed a resolution calling on the Government of Nunavut to "immediately develop and make known to the general

public a realistic Elders Care Strategy." In 2013, the Nunavut Seniors Society requested something similar. Will the Premier commit to developing and publishing a comprehensive elders strategy for Nunavut's seniors? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was my intention to ensure that we have a strategy going forward for our seniors and we're working with our partners to determine the various ages where seniors are considered seniors. As you know, throughout the nation, we have varying differences of ages that qualify for programs. Not only that, our federal government has different ages for different categories. We want to ensure that we coordinate that and have a good understanding of what we want to do within Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things I want to ensure that we try to accomplish is a strategy for our seniors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 237 – 4(3): Government Boat in Arctic Bay

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

To provide some background, I believe I brought up this issue last year when I

asked questions regarding the vessel in our community that has sat unused for several years. Although I received a response to my questions about the potential uses for that vessel, I would like to once again ask the minister about this vessel.

This boat was brought into our community in the past, where it was used to conduct surveys as well as to assist hunters during these studies. There must have been an underlying reason for shipping this vessel to our community, most likely from the previous RWED department, and I wonder why that vessel is just stored on land.

Why is this just sitting on the ground? Is it due to the lack of qualified workers that it has sat unused for the last two years? What is the reason? Is it because you can't afford to buy gas for that vessel?

>> *Laughter*

What is the reason for the vessel remaining stored on the land? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister for Community and Government Services, Mr. Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know who owns that boat at this time, so I can't really respond to that question properly. Maybe it's the Department of Environment or Wildlife Service. They may be able to respond to this question. I will have to check to see if they had released ownership of it to our department. I will have to see if the boat

can be given to another government department, the hamlet, the search and rescue group, or put it up for tender. Right now, I have no idea who owns that boat, so I can't respond properly. Thank you.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for that as I just used what I know of the background of the past government departments, as the old RWED department used to provide vessels to their employees. A person from Clyde River who lived in our community used to be the captain of the vessel, as he worked for that department. With that being the case, when that person left our community, the vessel was no longer used.

Due to that reason, I want to emphasize the past usage, which was to conduct surveys on harvested narwhals. Furthermore, while I was still living in my outpost camp, that vessel used to pass by, conducting surveys, and it would stop over. That is the reason for my bringing up this vessel. It hasn't been used for several years and I don't know exactly who owns the boat. That was why I decided to ask if anyone knew of the owner so that I could get an answer as to why it is no longer in use.

I did hear your response on the issue, but I again ask you to research the vessel. Once you have the answer, I would like to know exactly who owns that vessel to curtail my future questions on this boat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will check properly into the ownership of that boat and get back to you. I will go to your office and let you know as to who owns that boat. Thank you.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister, and I will certainly await the response with expectations of learning the answer.

Now I wonder: what about our local search and rescue societies? They are always in need of equipment, particularly transportation vehicles. This vessel has not been used for quite some time, as per my commentary on that past use. When a local emergency crops up, would that vessel be available to conduct searches or is it because it is no longer seaworthy?

I would like to see if the vessel could be used by our SAR groups for emergency purposes. At least from my perspective, it seems practical as it seems useable and shouldn't just be stored to rot away. Can you look into that part of it as well to see if it can be used for search and rescue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to that boat, I first need to ascertain the owner. Prior to finding that out, I cannot respond whether or not the vessel is safe to use for the local SAR groups or if it is no longer seaworthy. I can't respond either way since the government is still legally the owner, if it was owned by the past RWED department, and it will be up to the government to determine whether or not to retain it. I can't just tell you that whether or not it can be used. It will depend on my research as to who exactly owns that vessel and I will return with that answer for you. Thank you.

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

Question 238 – 4(3): Commitment to Smaller Communities

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, as I noted in my Member's Statement today, although the majority of Nunavummiut live in communities other than the major urban centre of Iqaluit, I continue to receive concerns from my constituents regarding the government's commitment to a long-term future for our smaller communities.

What assurances can the Premier provide us today that the government is committed to the long-term viability and sustainability of our smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank the member for that excellent question. As we go through our budgeting process here in this sitting, that's one of the things that we're putting through our budgets to ensure that there's viability within these smaller communities of Nunavut.

As I have indicated before, at times, it's very difficult for this government to ensure that we get proper funding for our smaller communities. As you know, with a population of 37,000 in Nunavut and 25 communities within Nunavut, we do have to build 25 of everything; airstrips, health centres, schools, and so forth, unlike southern jurisdictions where you've got 37,000 people in one community and you build one school, one airstrip, and one power plant. Here, of course, in our vast territory, as a government, we do have to build 25 of everything.

Time and time again, I do indicate to our colleagues in the federal government down in Ottawa that we're quite unique that way. Nunavut and the Arctic is one of the most expensive places to do business not only for industry but also for this government.

One of the things that we're trying to ensure is that through our programming within our government, we do have two corporations that try to ensure that there's economic activity within our smaller communities. Of course, the Nunavut Development Corporation is designated to ensure that these smaller communities, the non-decentralized communities participate in the economies that are available to them with the help of the Nunavut

Development Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier himself noted a couple of years ago in this House that some Canadian jurisdictions have had the experience of seeing their small communities depopulated and their services cut back or eliminated. I would like to know: what assurances can the Premier provide us today that the government will not cut back or eliminate services to our smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, we all understand that in some other southern jurisdictions, there have been a lot of communities closed down because of the economic situation that they faced.

Again, Nunavut is a unique territory. We are at the 60th parallel in the High Arctic. We all know that the High Arctic communities were established for sovereignty purposes to maintain that Canada owned the offshore islands, land, and seas out there. That's why these smaller communities were established in the High Arctic. We've got to ensure that our federal partners understand that they do have to assist us in maintaining that these communities stay viable for that purpose.

Again, through this House, we put our best efforts forward. We put our budgets out there to ensure that these communities are participants in that. As the Legislative Assembly, we hopefully approve all budgets going forward because, at the end of the day, we do have costs associated with maintaining these communities. We try to keep it autonomous where they have their own municipal governments and they do participate in that with the help of this territorial government.

Mr. Speaker, the assurance I can give the member is we try to maintain that they are part of this territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As our new colleague from Netsilik noted a few days ago, the capital city's international airport is in the process of receiving an upgrade that is in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

In Kimmirut, my constituents do not expect to see a new airport terminal building that will win international design awards, but they would like to see an airport facility that is more safely located and an ATB that is not falling apart.

What assurances can the Premier provide us today that the infrastructure needs of smaller communities are as important to the government as the infrastructure needs of the capital city? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank the member for inviting me to Kimmirut last fall. I really appreciated the invitation and it gave me a firsthand look of the community and infrastructure that is within the community. Mr. Speaker, yes, I rode in a twin otter that was maybe shaky at times coming in for landing into the Kimmirut Airport. I do understand that.

In some of our discussions, there are some plans initiated to see where the relocation of the strip can be made. I will surely talk with my Minister of Economic Development and Transportation to see exactly where the status of these discussions is. I will instruct my Minister of Transportation to get back to the hon. member with the status of these discussions on the airport. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 239 – 4(3): Jurisdiction over Franklin Expedition Artefacts

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, Uqhuqturmiut. It's good to see my auntie across there, Rita.

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

As the minister will recall, I paid tribute last year in the House to the contributions of one of my most distinguished constituents, Mr. Louie Kamookak, for his involvement in the search for the lost Franklin ships

Mr. Speaker, if you guys watch the national news, it has recently been

reported by CBC News that there is a dispute currently ongoing between the Department of Culture and Heritage and Parks Canada, which is a federal agency. Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that the dispute concerns ownership of artefacts from the lost ships.

For the benefit of my constituents in Gjoa Haven, can the minister provide a clear explanation of the Government of Nunavut's position on this matter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, with the discovery of the wreck of one of Franklin's ships in 2014, there are some disputes on ownership of certain relics and certain things that are found under the seabed.

Mr. Speaker, we are working very closely with our partners of Parks Canada to ensure that things are done in a proper fashion. There are also claims out there by the British government for ownership of the relics that may be found. At this time, we are in discussions with our partners to ensure that all the rules of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* and whatever laws that may exist, we want to ensure that all the regulatory laws are abided by, including our *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate what discussions his department and Parks Canada have had with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association concerning this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The discussions are ongoing. At this point, I can't tell the hon. member from Gjoa Haven as to how far these discussions have gone with the community. Mr. Speaker, I believe that the community of Gjoa Haven is keeping track of all the discussions that may be going on between the parties. Mr. Speaker, once there is any kind of agreement or a wish to consult with the community, we will certainly do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister has answered my second supplementary, but I will ask it for the record.

It is very important that artefacts from the Franklin expedition be put on permanent display in the community of Gjoa Haven, as my community is a part of this piece of history.

Can the minister indicate how his department is working with the Municipality of Gjoa Haven to identify ways of supporting projects that have been proposed by the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, through our discussions with Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, we will ensure that the ownership and laws that exist... We do understand that the British is anticipating and has signed agreements with Canada on the ownership of relics that may be found within the wreck. Those discussions are ongoing.

Mr. Speaker, once we have a clear understanding of what the next steps are, I will certainly mention to my hon. colleague that we may, indeed, ask for assistance from the community itself. Mr. Speaker, these things are ongoing at this time and once we have a clearer understanding, we will certainly let the member know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 240 – 4(3): Law Enforcement Initiatives

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

As the Minister of Justice will undoubtedly recall, his cabinet colleague, the Minister of Finance, announced as part of his recent Budget Address that the government will provide, and I quote, an “additional \$4.0 million next year to law enforcement.” Can the minister describe some of the specific initiatives that this money will be funding? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I almost forgot I was Minister of Justice.

>>*Laughter*

I have only been minister for 48 hours.

I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. Mr. Speaker, again, these are related to *Sivumut Abluqta* Mandate items that we have all approved in the House. A number of our initiatives are looking at improving and recruiting candidates into community policing. We are improving the Inuktitut language skills in the “V” Division working with Nunavut Arctic College, and other initiatives to support our community justice in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Municipality of Baker Lake has identified a need for an expanded RCMP presence in the community, including the assignment of more officers to the local detachment.

I have written a number of letters over the past year concerning the important work of the contract management committee established under the Canada-Nunavut Territorial Police Services Agreement.

Can the minister describe the process by which this committee identifies which

communities will receive more officers?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr.
Speaker. I didn't have time to read all
the correspondence that has been sent to
the Department of Justice for the last
two years myself since I have only been
the minister for two days. I will
endeavour to read that information.

Mr. Speaker, the policing contract was
signed in 2012 and it's a 20-year
agreement. I know that it's signed with
Public Service Canada. Canada-wide,
there's a demand for policing services.
As a government, we're under pressure
to support and provide more policing in
the communities and 75 percent of our
funding from that contract goes to our
share of the contract. Anytime there are
extra costs to provide more policing, it
will have to come down to the
Government of Nunavut those additional
resources.

I'll check with my officials when I get a
chance to meet with them just exactly
how that committee works to identify
priority police officers for communities.
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
acknowledgement.

In recent years, the Department of
Justice has worked with the RCMP's

"V" Division to produce a shared
directional statement concerning law
enforcement priorities in Nunavut. In
fact, the current minister tabled the
2010-11 version of this item back on
March 9, 2011, exactly five years ago to
this day.

Will the minister commit to tabling the
current shared directional statement with
the RCMP before the end of our current
winter sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr.
Speaker. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for
the question, Mr. Speaker. Mr.
Mikkungwak knows well that I don't
like to make commitments that I can't
honour. I will have to check on the status
of the shared directional agreement, but I
can't commit to tabling it before the end
of this sitting. If we stay on schedule and
catch up, it will be over next Thursday. I
will look into it when I get a chance to
meet with our officials and see where the
status is. Perhaps I could even backdoor
table the document before the spring
sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Oral Questions. Member for
Uqummiut, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak.

Question 241 – 4(3): Elders Accommodation at Boarding Homes

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank
you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in my
Member's Statement, I was concerned
about the patients who are sent out for
medical travel, especially the elders.

Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Health.

Last year, I was concerned about the Tammaativvik Boarding Home and the need to remodel it because some patients who stay there are allergic to carpeting. I would like to thank the minister for remodelling this as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, is it also possible to remodel the home so that they can dedicate rooms specific to elders? There are some patients who are just sleeping on the floor. Because of the condition of elders, some of them get tired very easily, they shouldn't do anything stressful, and they should be in proper facilities, especially in beds. Could the minister commit to looking at this issue so that we can have rooms specifically for the elderly patients at the boarding homes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for bringing that to our attention. Yes, the Tammaativvik Boarding Home board and management are included in four meetings a year with our departmental officials. However, prior to those meetings, our officials can have meetings to discuss the concerns expressed by my colleague at any time, so we will forward those concerns.

Furthermore, as an example, I was just recently there for a visitation and it was completely full. Whenever the boarding home is full, they look for alternative boarding arrangements within the city,

including hotels and (interpretation ends) bed and breakfast (interpretation) homes, as they are called. When space is not found, on the odd occasion, they have had to use folding (interpretation ends) cots (interpretation) to handle the overflow, with the understanding on the next day that they will get a room.

If the patient happens to be an elder, there is a directive to search for alternate places for the elders, but I will ensure we look into that to see exactly what happened in these cases and what transpired at that time. We will also look to see if we can look at elder-specific rooms and I will direct my officials to research that.

However, the boarding home continues to experience full capacity and I am unsure at this time if that can be accommodated, but I will ensure that it is looked into. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for her proper response. Indeed, that seems to be the case, as the boarding home always seems full to capacity. Whenever I arrive in Iqaluit, I always ensure I visit the Tammaativvik Boarding Home as many of our constituents are housed there, along with many other people we are acquainted with.

I feel that elders should be our priority, and I wonder if the management of the home require further directives to try to ensure that medical travel patients are accommodated. The information is always sent out prior to the travel, so

they are aware of incoming patients and perhaps some forethought could be given to our elderly patients when they know the home will be full to capacity. I wonder if our elders can be accommodated and whether this requires further work down the road. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. I also thank our colleague for pointing that out. I'll get my officials to work on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On another issue related to the full capacity Tammaativvik experiences, as we all know that it is sometimes overflowing with patients, the medical patients that arrive are usually in different categories, as some are public servants while others are members of the public. They all stay at the boarding home. I wonder if there is a policy for government employees to be able to stay at hotels and whether all government employees are allowed to stay in a hotel when they are down for medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. The first step is to identify

whether the person going to a hotel is a government employee, as they are allowed to stay in the hotel. The other aspect to this is that some people prefer not to stay in a hotel, as they want to be with their fellow Inuit, and this is also accommodated as per their wishes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 242 – 4(3): Update on Coral Harbour School

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the first question I have directed to the minister about the Coral Harbour school and we have had previous discussions on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister can explain what plans are in place for the new school for Coral Harbour, as they have expectations of seeing the new school based on the current school's problems. The school has flooding issues in the sub-basement due to the fact it was built on a marshy plain. Can the minister indicate what stage the planning is for the school in Coral Harbour? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, my colleagues and fellow residents of my community.

Yes, I thank you for asking that question, as I had provided a response to an earlier question about the Coral Harbour future school. As per our previous statements, it is still in the preplanning stage and it remains at that stage.

Obviously, we have to manage other schools particularly with respect to age. We review different factors related to our management. This project is still at that stage. What I can state here regarding the Coral Harbour future school is that it is still at the preplanning stage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it has been over a year that it has been in that stage and he has had the same response. That being the case, can the minister indicate what discussions he has had with his officials on exactly where in the planning stages they are? I know they visited Coral Harbour to have meetings. Where exactly are they now in the planning stage? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it's true that people were there to see what areas and problems can be fixed right away that they've had in the school. They have surveyed that and, as I stated earlier, it's in the preplanning stage. Once we move forward on that plan... .

I can state right now that we carefully review the schools that need to be

renovated and that need to be built. Their district education authorities are kept informed of the status and we hear from them. The district education authorities are the ones that we turn to in the communities. Once we are informed on what needs to be done, we start the work.

I can indicate right now that we have reviewed the school for Coral Harbour and all the other planned schools. I expect that if we need to build a new school, then we will keep them informed on the situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is the same response he usually provides. We have heard that there's lack of space. The planning stages of building a new school undoubtedly are targeted for use for a number of years. In order to prevent shortage of space, what plans are there when they will be presenting a new school? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We look at the student-educator ratio very carefully. It's up to 85 percent enrolment or above and then it becomes a priority for a new school depending on the number of students.

In Coral Harbour, they have not reached 85 percent enrolment yet. We are

looking into that and I can say that we will be tabling detailed information in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Question 243 – 4(3): Reviving the Mamisarvik Healing Centre

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to direct my question to the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this sitting, the Minister of Health indicated that, despite the Department of Health offering assistance to the Mamisarvik Healing Centre, the organization is closing its doors.

This morning, CBC News reported that the Premier has indicated that Nunavut is looking for a partnership with the federal government and hopes to get funding for the Mamisarvik centre by the end of the month.

Can the Premier provide more detail on what specific support will be provided to the Mamisarvik Healing Centre? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I know that the member brought the Mamisarvik issue to the House here at last week's sitting.

Mr. Speaker, we released "Resilience Within." The Minister of Health and the vice-president of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated participated in that right in the foyer of this building. Within that strategy and action plan, we want to look at options on how we can get to a point where we utilize some of these places that may be closing and that's exactly what we're looking at, at this point. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Mamisarvik Healing Centre is one of the only rehabilitation centres in Canada which offers Inuit-specific treatment and counselling. Can the Premier indicate what consideration has been given to ensuring that funding for the Mamisarvik Healing Centre is stable and ongoing for the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mamisarvik was run through funding from the federal government through the Aboriginal Healing Foundation and that was discontinued, of course.

Mr. Speaker, we want to ensure that we have viable alternatives when it comes to funding the organization. We do have to have agreements with our federal partners, including the management of the Mamisarvik organization, and we intend to look at this and discuss this and see how we can move forward. Thank

you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. It is a sad truth that Nunavut does not yet have its own residential healing centre despite desperately needing services in this area and despite past commitments to do so. Will the Premier commit to working with the federal government towards establishing and supporting a residential treatment facility in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We continue to discuss and speak with our partners on this, not just on residential treatment facilities, but we want to discuss a number of various things and that's one of them. We continue to do that with my colleagues in Ottawa, including our health department colleagues down in Ottawa. We want to ensure, with our partners, that we come up with a viable treatment facility. Of course, that's one of the things we're keenly looking forward to continuing on with our discussions to ensure that we come up with a viable treatment facility that's going to benefit all Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, we continue to task and discuss that with our federal partners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 244 – 4(3): Search and Rescue Contributions Policy

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Sanikiluaq and the rest of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Community and Government Services. I want to follow up today with issues of search and rescue.

As the minister will be aware, Schedule 1 of his department's policy regarding community-based search and rescue contributions for local search and rescue organizations outlines eligible and non-eligible expenditures. One of the non-eligible categories is, and I quote, "repair of equipment to its pre-search condition."

Mr. Speaker, if a bureaucrat in Iqaluit gets into an accident while driving a government truck on official business, he or she is not liable for the repair bill. The government's insurance covers that.

Mr. Speaker, fair is fair. I believe that if a search and rescue volunteer risks his or her equipment during an authorized search, he or she should not have to worry that they will have to pay for any damages that occur during the search.

Can the minister explain why the government's current policy does not cover repair of damaged equipment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. The search and rescue organizations in the communities are vital and very useful. They're the organization you hope that you never have to use, but you're sure glad when you need them that they're there.

I agree with the member that these volunteers go out on their own, without being paid, using their own equipment, and we all know that there's wear and tear on equipment. For that reason, our department has come up with a new policy and it's completed, but we're still doing a few little tweaks on it. This policy is so that we will be able to replace certain parts that break on equipment during a search. Part of the process would be that these vehicles would be pre-inspected for a search, just a quick go-over by someone who is knowledgeable.

I agree with the member that if someone uses their own equipment for a public search, an authorized search, there should some compensation if their snowmobile should break due to normal wear and tear. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his comments on that issue and we look forward to more information on exactly what types of parts will be covered under that program.

Schedule 1 of his department's policy regarding community-based search and rescue contributions for local search and rescue organizations also provides that,

and I quote, "Where unusual circumstances warrant special consideration, the Deputy Minister or delegate may deem excluded items to be eligible expenditures."

Can the minister indicate roughly how many times this authority has been exercised over the past year to authorize payment to repair equipment damaged in searches? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, I can't inform the member right now; I don't have that information in front of me as to how many times this system was used, but each case would be judged on its own merit. I will get back to the minister on how many times in the past 12 months that this special authority had been used. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just for clarification, I am not the minister; he is.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide a clear and simple explanation of the process that search and rescue volunteers should undertake to apply for reimbursement in the event that their equipment is damaged during an authorized search? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This draft search and rescue policy, like I informed the member, is complete right now, but it's not public yet. We are still consulting with the RCMP because they are part of the organization; they help out.

The way it currently runs right now is it is ad hoc. There is no real system, but people do get wear and tear and the parts are replaced one way or the other. As soon as this policy is out, there will be an actual procedure so that everyone will know exactly how to do the process.

Once this policy is published and it's out, we will inform all search and rescue committees in all communities on the exact process of how someone can get their wear and tear items on their snowmobile during a search repaired or replaced. Thank you.

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

Question 245 – 4(3): Medical Travel Escort Policy

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

Mr. Speaker, my questions are directed to the Minister of Health.

I am aware that the minister has been the Minister of Health for a little over 48

hours, but I know that she was the previous Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard various comments and we have different understandings with regard to assistance provided to medical travel patients. We believe that it's very important for Nunavummiut, especially for our elders, for unilingual-speaking people and for seriously ill people.

First of all, I would like to ask a question so that we have the same level of understanding. When there is serious illness, who do they ask for a medical escort? Is it the nurse or the doctor or both that can state that the patient needs an escort? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member. I will try to respond. When a nurse or doctor sees patients who will be going on medical travel, they identify whether or not an escort is required. If they require an escort, the doctor or nurse practitioner has to inform the director that they are approved and the director would then take action from there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You mentioned the nurse practitioner or doctor. If a patient that will be going on medical travel requests an escort, can their request be denied by

a senior official and who can deny their request? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Yes, a client escort may not necessarily be approved for the full duration of a client's stay, unless legal consent by a parent or guardian is required. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response, but I didn't ask a question about that matter. My question is: are there senior officials that can say no to a nurse or doctor, even if the patient requires an escort? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member. I thought I responded to that.

Mr. Speaker, if a patient requires an escort, we wouldn't know the reason why, but the directors would know. The directors can decide to deny the request. Even if the patient wanted to have an escort, the director can deny the request. If they truly believe that the patient requires an escort, the Office of Patient Relations can be approached and make an appeal to that office when they were denied a request for an escort. Thank

you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Motion 021 – 4(3): Extension of Question Period

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move to extend oral questions, seconded by Member for Hudson Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order and it is not subject to debate. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and question period is extended for an additional 30 minutes.

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

Question 246 – 4(3): Activities of the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation.

I want to begin by thanking the minister for having tabled the government's response to our recent standing committee report on the activities of the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation and the Nunavut Development Corporation.

I also want to take this opportunity to publicly pay tribute to the performance of the NBCC chair, Nancy Karetak-Lindell, who did an excellent job in

representing the NBCC during our committee's recent televised hearings.

As the minister is aware, the board of directors of NBCC has been recommending for some time that the loan limit threshold under section 37 of the corporation's establishing legislation be doubled from \$1 million to \$2 million. Can the minister provide a clear timeline today as to when she will be introducing legislation to act on this recommendation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I have too many briefing notes in front of me, as I can't figure out which one.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As per my colleague's question, I believe the amount is roughly \$3,358,000 for the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Development Corporation, (interpretation) if I am correct in assuming that is the body she referenced. Yes, I apologize. Perhaps she can clarify which organization she questioning about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please clarify your question, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, for clarification, I was

talking about NBCC, the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The Nunavut Business Credit Corporation plays an important role in Nunavut's economic growth through the provision of term loans, loan guarantees, and contract security bonding to enterprises that cannot obtain the necessary financing from other traditional financial institutions.

We are proposing an additional \$100,000 to the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation in the 2016-17 fiscal year to increase the corporation's outreach activities, allowing it to service more small business clients across the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure my question was really answered. It was about the \$1 million that NBCC was requesting at some point. Maybe it's something that she can look into with the staff at NBCC.

Let me go on to my next question. As the minister is aware, there is still a high level of secrecy surrounding the identities of which companies and individuals receive loans from the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation.

Can the minister clearly explain why do we have this secrecy and what does it achieve? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation is a lending agency to businesses that want to have loans in the territory and Nunavut's growing private sector by fulfilling the financial needs of entrepreneurs who require between \$250,000 and \$1 million in loans and guarantees.

Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure why the member is saying that there's secrecy because people who want to get loans from the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation usually do not want their names made public. I could get back to the member as to the reasons why some loaners would want that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. I would appreciate her getting back because I think there will probably be more questions coming up on that topic. It would be good for you to have that discussion with your staff.

I guess it's my last question. Mr. Speaker, we are currently reviewing this government's 2016-17 main estimates and business plans. Can the minister indicate what new priorities she is including in her 2016-17 Letter of

Expectation to the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll share that with the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Question 247 – 4(3): Caribou Habitat and Restricted Development

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hadn't planned on asking this question, but I feel it requires a response.

I would like to ask the Premier about his earlier statement regarding the Manitoba-Nunavut power line study. I am referring to caribou calving grounds, as it is used as an example that could be provided. Based on what I know, it is just an illustration of the route seemingly meant as a scare tactic. It isn't optically pleasant to see that. We had a previous government that used these types of tactics and many voters sent them packing, as we don't want to see this type of scaremongering from our governments to their own constituents.

I first want to ask the Premier: is the proposed route of the power line entering Nunavut through calving grounds? Is the route planned going through that area? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's not a scare tactic. That's an example that's used to show the possibilities of so many things that were in my Minister's Statement. Mr. Speaker, that is not the purpose of the statement. There are many other examples I could have used. It's not a scare tactic. It's an example of things that make it quite obvious of the government's position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am in full support of the proposed power line. I have encouraged the project as it can be of great benefit to Nunavummiut and that encouragement won't stop.

Nevertheless, caribou are extremely important to us as Nunavummiut depend on caribou for their sustenance, so we need to ensure their protection. Due to their placement within these types of tactics, it is not productive as it may not be factual.

If the plan is in conflict with an important project for the government, which states that if either party has concerns about plans put forward by this planning group, then it can be changed to allow the project to proceed. Just last summer in 2015, this process was used by the parties.

With respect to these initial plans, they went above these plans to ensure that it went ahead, which is why that tactic will

not stop this process due to the issues that need resolution. Can the Premier elaborate on this process, as this can still happen even with the power line in place? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my ministerial statement, we want to ensure that wildlife is protected. That's why we do have these regulatory processes in place according to our *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. That's the process that's set out in place.

As a government, I do not want to take out the purposes of these IPGs, especially the ones that regulate development. I want to ensure that we protect our wildlife to the extent where all these developers would understand there is a fact-based regulatory process that we do have in Nunavut. That's one of the things I'm very proud of. We do have IPGs and regulators that are entrenched within our land claims agreement. As a matter of fact, we do try to accommodate that to the best of our abilities.

All these infrastructures, as the member indicated, that's one of the things I'm trying to get done for Nunavut. We lack infrastructure. We need \$6 billion worth of infrastructure at this time just to get to the point where we have comfortable, sustainable, and better living for our people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, as the member is well aware, we have 67 percent of our

residents in Nunavut who are on income support. Mr. Speaker, that's one of the things that, as the Premier, I do want to change to ensure that Nunavummiut have an opportunity to training and employment to bring their self-esteem up. This is one of the things, as the Premier, I'm trying to do. I do not want to see our people in perpetual poverty.

Mr. Speaker, that's why we do make these policies. I really appreciate the fact that the previous minister participated in allowing these discussions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As a government, we argue that we want to supply nutritious food to our constituents. Caribou is one of the most valuable sources of nutrition in our own territory. It's here and we depend on it. I think we should take steps to protect them. I agree that we need to move forward at the same time.

According to the plans as they are today, 6 percent of the territory makes up about the total calving grounds for caribou in our own territory. That leaves another 94 percent of the entire territory for development. There's plenty of room for development in our landmass, which is largest in the country, mind you. Even if the plans are put in place, a developer can seek an exemption in the future under Section 11.5.11. That has already happened and it worked for Baffinland last year.

As well, in the event that a government or Inuit organization does not agree with

a plan in the future, they can seek an amendment to the plan under Section 11.6.1. There are protections in place. It won't be a total ban. It's a moving plan that will be adjusted to the future as we go. Can you please reconsider your decision? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As cabinet, we make these decisions for Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, there are processes set out in place to ensure that development has all the base facts and information that it needs, without political interference in all cases, and communities participate.

Mr. Speaker, as I said, I was the only Inuk who ever accessed Canadian Environmental Agency funds. I was a full-time intervener at one of the developers' discussions. I know for a fact that the member is absolutely correct, there are moving targets. That's why the regulatory processes, the agencies do have to take these matters on a case-by-case basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 248 – 4(3): Medical Travel Escort Policy

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are directed to the Minister of Health.

When I was questioning the minister, she responded explaining the medical travel escort policy. Just so that I understand it completely, let me ask this question again. Do I understand it correctly that when a nurse or doctor wants a sick person to have an escort, that decision can be taken down by a director, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll take that question as notice.

Speaker: The minister has taken this as notice. I shall proceed on to the next. (interpretation) Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Question 249 – 4(3): Dogs at Sylvia Grinnell Park

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the member sitting beside me regarding my constituency.

In Iqaluit, we utilize the Sylvia Grinnell River as our source of fresh drinking water. The elders enjoy it. However, we just heard that they're bringing dogs to the river to let loose at the park. It's a territorial park. What will the minister do about pets being left to roam at the river and depositing their solid waste in our drinking water? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. With respect to the territorial parks run by the Nunavut government, anyone can enter those parks. Parks are intended for recreational purposes. That's where I stand at this time, as per the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it's a territorial park and you can make regulations. I would like to ask the Minister of Environment if he could set regulations where pets or dogs have to be on leash and not let loose. I would like to ask the minister if he could commit to drafting regulations so that it would be more enjoyable for the people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I could have it reviewed. The park committees and managers can be involved. Again, here in Iqaluit, we can work closely with the city council as it's within the municipal boundaries. Yes, we can take that into consideration. We want to make sure that regulations are followed at territorial parks. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Minister of Environment. We are going to be having another spring sitting and I

would like to ask the minister if he would have those ready for a review by that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I can do that and we will get back to you on the issue on the solid waste product from a dog. Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Question 250 – 4(3): Search and Rescue Contributions Policy

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

One of my colleagues had a question earlier about the Nunavut search and rescue organizations and their equipment. Will the minister commit to ensuring that the policy applied will reflect Nunavut's winter, fall, and sometimes spring and summer seasonal search and rescue operations? They conduct operations in all seasons, as many Nunavummiut love to spend quality time on the land, including hunting trips for their families. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to have to ask the member to rephrase his question as I don't get the connection between the search and rescue policy and families going out to get food. So if he can rephrase his question. Thank you.

Speaker: Can you please rephrase your question, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Yes, if my colleague listened intently, it would be obvious.

My colleague earlier referred to only the winter season when mentioning what he is aware of regarding search and rescue operations. Nevertheless, based on actual experiences as a member of the SAR groups, searches can be conducted in the winter, early spring, fall, and sometimes summer as well. Some of the searches can occur in any month, even in the fall, as anyone can be the subject of a search since Inuit are out hunting for sustenance and provide for their fellow Inuit and relatives.

With that being the case, will this new policy currently under development reflect the reality of searches in all seasons, such as winter, early spring, fall, and even summer? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for clarifying his question. This policy will cover all seasons; it's not a policy on the winter, spring, summer, or fall. This policy is a search and rescue policy and

it will cover all seasons of the year. I'm absolutely aware that there are searches that go on throughout the whole year in all of Nunavut, so this policy will encompass the whole year. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for providing a clear response. Now with respect to some of our SAR groups, sometimes their equipment breaks down. When a breakdown occurs, the prices are expensive and parts can vary wildly between communities.

When a searcher is using their own equipment for the search and it breaks down, what is the limit for reimbursing the searcher for replacement costs? As an example, if their ATV broke down, what is the limit for replacement costs, or will it be clearly outlined within the policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This policy, although complete, is not public yet as we're still just fine-tuning it. I can't tell the member exactly what's in the policy until this policy is public. Thank you.

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

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

minister indicated that this policy will be eventually introduced.

Now I want to ask about this matter next. When equipment breaks down, the searchers are usually volunteers with a strong sense of duty. With that being said, I would then like to ask: if the volunteer experiences equipment breakdown, will they be compensated? As the minister stated earlier, all equipment will be inspected prior to commencing searches. Does this mean the searchers will have to sign a form prior to conducting the search? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for trying to get more out of this policy that's not public yet. The information will come out on this policy when it becomes public.

The current system as it is right now, each search and rescue committee can, if they want, on a case-by-case basis, help volunteer searchers out. They volunteer their time and they use their own equipment, and we all know there is wear and tear on their equipment. We're just legitimizing a system that is sort of being done right now in a small way, but we want to make this a uniform system for all of Nunavut. We value our search and rescue committees and volunteers that search in Nunavut. They are vital for the safety of Nunavummiut.

Once this policy is complete, it will be laid out and all search and rescue committees and all communities will be

given the policy and the policy will be explained to them. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uqummiut, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak.

Question 251 – 4(3): Piqqusilirivvik Civil Servants Medical Travel

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education as a supplement to the earlier question that I asked.

My constituency includes Clyde River and there are elders who work at the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural Learning Centre. Can the minister indicate if Piqqusilirivvik employees are recognized as government employees? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education, Mr. Paul Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For further clarity, that is part of Nunavut Arctic College and not the Department of Education. Even though I'm the Minister of Education, I can say that Piqqusilirivvik employees have the same benefits as the Nunavut government employees. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do apologize for making that error. Now I know that it's under Nunavut Arctic College.

Can the minister further clarify? I mentioned that patients sent out on medical travel are not well looked after. When Piqqusilirivvik employees go on medical travel, they think they have to stay at the Tammaativvik Boarding Home because the staff there are elders. Can you indicate whether Piqqusilirivvik employees are fully informed that they can be accommodated in a hotel if they do not wish to stay at Tammaativvik? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't really respond to that question because it's not my responsibility. It is not my responsibility to care for the medical patients. It would be appropriate to direct this question to the Minister of Health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): I apologize, Mr. Keyootak. Your questions are going all over the place, so I'll end it at that.

Going back to the orders of the day. Please note that the time for question period has expired. 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. (interpretation ends) Item 13. Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister of Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

**Tabled Document 090 – 4(3):
Correspondence and Other Items
Concerning the Hudson Bay
Consortium**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's the second time today I have been called minister. I don't know what's up here.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table today a collection of letters and other items concerning the Hudson Bay Consortium, which is a working group to protect the health of Canada's largest inland sea.

These documents also address the important work that is being undertaken by the community of Sanikiluaq concerning these issues.

Mr. Speaker, I will have detailed questions for the appropriate minister on the issue of the GN's support for these initiatives before the end of our winter sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt, I'm sorry for not addressing you properly.

Tabling of Documents. Member for Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

**Tabled Document 091 – 4(3):
Correspondence to the Members
of the Legislative Assembly from
the Kivalliq Wildlife Management
Board**

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to table today a letter that

has been sent from the Kivalliq Wildlife Board to the Members of the Legislative Assembly. The Kivalliq Wildlife Board's correspondence concerns caribou habitat.

Mr. Speaker, I will have detailed questions on this issue for the Minister of Environment at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. (interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. (interpretation) Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. [Consideration in] Committee of the Whole on Bills and Other Matters. Bills 10, 11, 12, and 13 and Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), 149 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3) with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 16 – 4(3), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:49 and
Committee resumed at 16:18*

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

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak): Thank you. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 10, 11, 12, and 13 and Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), 149 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a very long wish list today. We wish to continue with the review of the 2016-17 Main Estimates of the Department of Family Services, followed by the departments of Finance and Economic Development and Transportation. If time permits, we will proceed with Nunavut Arctic College, followed by the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are we in agreement that we continue with the main estimates for the Department of Family Services?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 –
Family Services – Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. Is the committee agreed that the minister's staff go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials in.

Minister, please introduce (interpretation ends) your staff.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. I also thank my colleagues and those who are watching the proceedings. I wish everyone a good afternoon.

To my right is my Deputy Minister, Rebekah Williams, and our (interpretation ends) Director of Corporate Services, Sol Modesto-Vardy.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We were on page D-5. Branch Summary. Children and Family Services. Next name on my list, Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 130 (interpretation ends) of your business plan, (interpretation) I have a question. (interpretation ends) Your 2016-17 business plan indicates that the department will be conducting an assessment of the residential care needs for Nunavutmiut. I just want to point out that the Department of Health had done the assessment. What aspects of the residential care service will be focused on this priority? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. I'm sorry, but I'll have my staff respond to that question. My deputy

minister will respond to that question.
Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member asked a question on page 130. I might have a different copy. Which bullet did he asked about? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Please clarify your question, Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On 130, (interpretation) it's written twice, (interpretation ends) 2015-16, last bullet, and then 2016-17, last bullet. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) I believe it's now clear. As the minister indicated, Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for clarifying that. The Department of Health and the Department of Family Services have slightly different mandates. For Family Services, they have it as categories 1 and 2 related to the level of care. For people with more mobility, we set aside space for them.

This is still in development. We are trying to ascertain the actual numbers, as well as determining who amongst our southern care institutions can be returned to our territory. This is in relation to our wish to properly evaluate our practices. This is proceeding fine at the moment.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Costs of delivery of facility-based residential care are projected to increase significantly in 2016-17. Can you provide further clarification on why these costs are expected to increase? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the details on those subjects, so my deputy minister will respond to that.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps the member can state which page that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. A. Sammurtok, please clarify the page that you are referencing. Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: D-5, Compensation and Benefits (interpretation) as well as (interpretation ends) Grants and Contributions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe he can restate his question. Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. A. Sammurtok, can you please repeat your question. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Costs of delivery for facility-based residential care are projected to increase significantly in 2016-17. Can you provide further clarification on why these costs are expected to increase? I would like to clarify that instead of Compensation and Benefits, it's Contract Services. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to finances, Ms. Vardy will respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That increased amount is around \$4.7 million in contract services between 2015-16 and 2016-17. It's due to an amount that we have to have to establish residential care. That amount was sunset this year, 2015-16, so we have to ask for that money.

Also, that increase is due to the re-profiling of some of our contract services, which used to be in other areas, as mentioned yesterday, in adult services. That's why we moved some money to that part, which is supposed to be contract services. This is just for realigning our budget to the proper expenditures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In your business plan, if you go to page 129, residential care facilities for 2015-16, it was \$29,306,000. For 2016-17, it's now \$34,122,000. Can you explain the increase? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our official, Ms. Vardy, will respond again. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can ask the member to repeat the question so that I can properly look at the information here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Can you repeat your question, Mr. A. Sammurtok?

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If you go to page 129 in your business plan under Residential Care, it was \$29,306,000 for 2015-16. Under 2016-17, it increases to \$34,122,000. Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

Chairman: Thank you. He's referring to page 129, \$29,306,000 to \$34,122,000. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That increase is due to increased rates of residential services. As well, we're getting more increased costs

due to the Consumer Price Index. Costs are increasing every year, especially this year. We sent out a tender for contracting and once we get all the outstanding offer agreements, we're expecting that contractors will be asking for more increased rates. That's the reason why our residential care costs are increasing.

If you look at the main estimates document, D-5, you will see the actual expenditure already like \$31 million. The trend is increasing and we have to meet that budget requirement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be my last question. How many elders are on the waiting list? Maybe I'll say it in English. (interpretation ends) How many people are on the waiting list, elders at home, but due to continuing care services having no room, they have to wait? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will respond to that. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) With regard to the figures and the number of elders awaiting space in these facilities, they are housed by the Department of Health. The Department of Health as well as

Family Services officials determine which patient would be eligible to be housed. There is a process they have to follow to deal with elders on the waiting list. Unfortunately, I cannot recite any numbers related to that question because the numbers are kept by the Department of Health. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We are on children and family services. Next name on my list, Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My first question is in your business plan for next year on page 130. The fourth bullet states that the *Inuit Custom Adoption Recognition Act* will be reviewed. How will that be reviewed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy minister will respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have prepared a procedure to follow, but we will be reviewing it more closely to see how we can incorporate the *Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act*, as this legislation is already in use. Further, the previous review request is not new. It was sent prior to my secondment to the Department of Family Services.

What I can say is that this legislation has been misinterpreted in the past or that they tried to sidestep the legal requirements. However, what I can tell

the House is that we don't anticipate any major changes or amendments to the legislation. Officials in the past who worked in this department highlighted the concern about sidestepping the legislation related to the *Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act* to ensure that we are in compliance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's the only legislation we have for Inuit custom adoption that we actually use. I know that there's going to be a review. I will want to see how it will be reviewed so that we will know exactly what's going to be done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Yes, I concur with my colleague totally. Indeed, when discussing aboriginal custom adoption and the practices related to that, with respect to that review, the Department of Family Services cannot really be involved. However, we want to review the legislation, as per my colleague's question, as Inuit custom adoption needs to be properly recognized.

With respect to the review, I believe it can be collaborated on and resolved, not just by our department, and that is why I say that it cannot be done solely by us. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the only legislation that provides for Inuit custom adoption. Although the commitment to review it is there, other barriers remain, such as child apprehension, which results in disruption of many Inuit families. That is what I would prefer reviewed in that light to move towards Inuit custom adoption practices because our traditional social practices can alleviate many problems, such as healing families.

If we were to incorporate them into the legislation instead, that is the preference here. What we have endured for many years by complying with this legislation will most likely change again after the review of the legislation. That review should be withdrawn and let us review how to insert our traditional practices so that we can resolve these issues in our future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for that question and stating that. Indeed, I can only state that I agree that Inuit traditions should be assessed to see how to resolve our current malaise without looking at other issues. Within that context, I do agree with the member, so I will direct our departmental officials to commence this work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Okalik, are you done? Okay. We are on (interpretation ends) Children and Family Services. Following the list of names, Mr.

Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, Minister Mike and your officials.

I would like clarification first. In your business plan, perhaps under page 129 at the top bullet, on page 137 in Inuktitut, if we look at the funding for last year, it was a little over \$ 1 million and there's an increase in headquarters. What is the reason for the increase in headquarters? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our official, Ms. Vardy, will respond.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That \$1 million that's added to child family services headquarters is slated for legal services. That money was reallocated coming from the Guardianship Services. You will see a big drop in the other lines. We moved that \$1 million to this area because that's where it's supposed to go. This is the provision of legal services to advise child protection workers on the obligation in complying with the *Child and Family Services Act*. That's the \$1 million for legal services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps they will be dealing with the legislation.

Just below that, Child Protection Services, if you can give me the figure today of how many foster care children there are in Nunavut. I know that some of them are in care outside the territory. So if you can give me a figure on the number of foster children. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our official, Ms. Vardy, will respond.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Overall, at this point, we have 209 children and youth in foster care and we have about 250 foster parents providing this critical service for us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The 209 that she just referred to, can she break them down for Nunavut and outside the territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will elaborate and respond to the question. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Children under care out of the territory who have a physical

or mental disability are 61 and there are two that have been returned. There are close to 60. The others are in Nunavut. As of February 10, there were 376 foster care children. The 60 that are out of the territory are not just foster children; they are housed in residential care facilities where they are physically or mentally disabled. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps you can clarify. There are some children in foster care and there are various reasons for that. If a child is in foster care for a day, how much do they pay the foster parents for one day for one child? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will respond to those questions. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you for asking that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have a pen? If you have a foster child for one day, you get paid \$43 in Rankin Inlet, Iqaluit, Whale Cove, Sanikiluaq, Pangnirtung, Arviat, Cambridge Bay, Kimmirut, and Cape Dorset. They are paid \$45 a day in Qikiqtarjuaq, Igloodik, Chesterfield Inlet, Clyde River, Naujaat, Coral Harbour, Hall Beach, and Baker Lake. They are paid \$47 in Pond Inlet, (interpretation ends) Resolute Bay, (interpretation) and Arctic Bay. Foster parents are paid \$50 a

day in Taloyoak, (interpretation ends) Grise Fiord, (interpretation) Kugaaruk, and Gjoa Haven.

Those figures have been set up for quite some time. I am very pleased that the member is asking that question because we know that these figures are a bit on the low side for a daily fee in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How about for out-of-territory care? How much does it cost per day out of the territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy minister will respond.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Down south, they are not just under foster care; they are in a residential care facility, which is more expensive. If we look at a year, for example, it's close to \$300,000 per year. Sometimes they go over because they need to see a doctor or need other services. They're not just fostered because they're in the facility.

In Nunavut, if they need care and they have physical disabilities, they are paid over the figure that I gave according to the level of care they require. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank her for her response. I'm talking more about foster care children in Nunavut, not out of the territory. It's evident that sometimes the children are fostered for a short period of time and some for a longer period of time. Can you tell me the average? If we look at that, how long would one child be under foster care when we have to provide funding? Perhaps monthly or weekly, you can estimate the figure so that we can have it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will explain that.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It works this way: some of them are just taken on an emergency basis for 72 hours or up to three years or even more if necessary. If it's a young person 18 or 19 years of age or older up to 25 to 27 years of age, they can be fostered in a home.

There are different types of foster children. There are those that are given to us by the courts. I don't want to make a guess. Although I would like to provide a definitive answer, many different cases are dealt with through the foster system. I may not have responded correctly to the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, even though you did not respond to the question. If you could have that available, then we could get that answer at a later time when we ask the question again.

There was discussion earlier about the review of the adoption legislation. Can you indicate to us how many children are adopted under the Nunavut adoption legislation? I'll start with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From the information that we have and in response to your question, in Iqaluit, there are 20; in the Baffin, 50; in the Kivalliq, 70; and in the Kitikmeot, 21. Those are the numbers of adoptions. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. Does that include orphans? Are there any orphans that need to be adopted? That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a good question. My deputy minister will respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When discussing Inuit custom adoptions in the context of aboriginal custom adoptions, when parents adopt a child, they do so in agreement with the biological parents and the prospective adoptive parents. They first need to document their agreement, which is generally done with an adoption commissioner who documents the arrangements between the parties. Further, the adoption commissioners are now trained by the Department of Family Services on the paper trail requirements and we also pay them \$200 for each case they arrange based on this documentation.

There are major differences with an orphan who has lost their mother and father since relatives have the first right if they agree to adopt that orphan, so that can also occur. However, with respect to the other avenues of adoption related to Inuit custom adoptions, sometimes a family will foster a child for many years who cannot return home and they end up being adopted by the family. This is a more complicated process since there is a requirement to conduct a case study of the home by identifying the family members, what status they have, and this includes the kind of lifestyle that family practices.

The biological parents have to release their parental rights and transfer the children to social services. That is another aspect of adoptions. These are called (interpretation ends) departmental adoption and private adoption, (interpretation) as well as personal adoptions if they have agreed beforehand. As an example, if I gave

birth to a child, I can come to an agreement with any other prospective parent, irrespective of whether they are Inuit or non-Inuit, as that would constitute a private adoption.

There are three different kinds of adoptions handled by the Department of Family Services. The department doesn't really handle the actual adoptions, but we document the adoption as per the paper trail requirements to ensure that that child's birth certificates and social insurance numbers can be set up properly in the future upon the child becoming of age. This includes the documentation required as to their identity or (interpretation ends) identification (interpretation) that require the correct information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Today, how many adoption commissioners are there in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are currently 28 adoption commissioners in Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do all the communities in Nunavut have an adoption commissioner? With those 28 commissioners, is there one in every

community in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The communities that don't have an adoption commissioner are Cape Dorset, Chesterfield Inlet, and Whale Cove.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What are your plans to make sure that those communities get an adoption commissioner? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Cape Dorset and the three communities, they have been spoken to and they are made aware through the Department of Family Services that they don't have an adoption commissioner right now and if someone is interested, that person would be trained. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank her for the response. I want to urge the minister to make sure that all communities have

an adoption commissioner so that the next time when we go through this again, they will have adoption commissioners.

It was mentioned earlier that there is legislation on the use of the Inuit way on custom adoptions and that it's being reviewed. I believe your deputy minister responded by saying that there may be a way to abuse that system. How has there actually been abuse of the system? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. The Department of Family Services fully supports Inuit custom adoptions. Let us be aware of that because it always happens and we support it. We would like you all to know that when there is an adoption happening, the Department of Family Services does not take part. The groups that are involved agree; the biological parents and adopters involved in the adoption.

I may not have explained it correctly the first time I tried to explain it. My deputy minister will expand further on my response. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding the potential for abuse that I brought up, we've had two or three incidents, no more than three, where the biological parents and adopters were not all Inuit who tried to take advantage of this system. That's why we decided that we

need to review this to ensure that there are no loopholes that inadvertently allow non-Inuit to make an adoption through this piece of legislation on Inuit custom adoption. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for answering my question. This is just a general comment. I want to thank the social workers when it involves the future of children. As parents and as a government, we have to have more options to make sure that they don't turn towards a negative way of life, as some do seem to.

I just want to encourage the Department of Family Services to ensure that our children, boys and girls, are taken care of properly when they are under the care of the government. We often hear through the news, especially in the south, where the government's social workers had taken these children and then they ended up being neglected or abandoned. We want to make sure that does not happen up here and we want to make sure that they are well taken care of until they are able to take care of themselves. I'll stop there.

I really feel strongly about this. We have to make sure that the future of Nunavut is good for our children. We want to make sure that your department takes much better care of the children that are in your care. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I take that as a comment. I didn't hear a question. We are with Children and Family Services.

Following the list of names, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question under Children and Family Services on page 129. Looking at this, it's under item six. Under Family Violence Services, "Community Social Services Workers (CSSWs) provide family violence intervention services."

I'm sure that social service workers in the communities have to get involved in those types of situations. What about using elder counsellors in those types of situations? Has the department been asked about this? Has this been considered by your department under Children and Family Services? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this question to my deputy minister. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understood your question, whether the Department of Family Services should intervene on a neglected or mistreated child, there's usually a meeting with the parents and the family members of that child. If there are parents, grandparents, and family members who can make a contribution to the particular case, we would have meetings with them.

Children are considered to be very important. As Member Joanasie

indicated, we have to make a better future for our children. It would be for the best interest of the child that we involve the parents, grandparents, and other family members.

It doesn't stop there. If those children are fostered by a department, NTI and the regional associations are informed through a letter in accordance with the *Child Services Act* where there's an adoption or if a child is taken away from parents. NTI and the regional associations are involved, depending on the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I asked that question because they're older and they are well acquainted with traditional child rearing practices. If an elder were involved in the intervention, would the Department of Family Services pay them? That's my question. Thank you.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to explain for your information that numbers of families that require assistance are quite high within Nunavut and it has led to many problems within homes.

With respect to the facilities people are clamouring for here in Nunavut related to women's shelters or men's shelters, there are certain plans in place to try to provide these facilities. Even with that work, it seems obvious to me that elders provide assistance in resolving these

problems without going through social services but with local initiatives. This is apparent due to the seriousness of these issues.

I also want to inform members that the Department of Family Services has the responsibility of alleviating problems in the homes. Further, actions have been taken on the social issues that have led to the creation of many organizations such as the Qullit Status of Women Council, whose mandate is to advocate on behalf of women and to disseminate the information for ending violence in the homes. We have existing organizations that provide support. We know elders get involved within our communities, even without involving social services. I just wanted to clarify that for the members.

With that, I would ask that my deputy minister add to my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With those kinds of problems in the family, it's usually conflicts between husband and wife. It's not only women who go to the shelters; men are also sent to another community. This is excessively high in Nunavut. If a woman needs to go to another community to get away from a violent situation, elders usually get involved when it becomes an emergency. It might take years with the violence in the home before a man or a woman finally decides to get out of that situation.

It must be understood, however, that it isn't only women who flee from violence in the home. It's just that the

only shelter for victims of domestic violence is for women and their children. The women's shelter in Apex, as an example, is always full, including children. We had a few cases of men going to another community because they are afraid of their female spouse or they are unable to resolve their problems.

It may not seem appropriate, but with alcohol and drug abuse involved, some cases reach violence of shocking levels. We all know this can result in murder, whether it's a man or woman acting out of uncontrolled anger. It is before things reach that stage that some people want to flee.

Perhaps I didn't respond properly, so please let me know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the situation, but maybe you didn't understand my question. Before someone goes to a shelter or to another community in a violent situation, do the social service workers involve an elder for the intervention? If the elder gets involved in an intervention, is it possible for the elder to be paid for providing the counselling services? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Family Services follows

the legislation as it pertains to every situation it has to deal with.

I see it as a suggestion that we can look into as a department for those cases. In those situations of conflict, there are different types of violence. Many seek help in such a way before their spouses get wind of it, which is one of the few rights a victim is able to exercise.

My colleague's comments can be very constructive if they can be followed up. We do try to provide help out there by using means outside of the department. Some individuals caught in a situation have been helped positively by elders. This is something I will need to investigate further to see if there is some way we can pay elders for their role or worked with in some capacity.

My staff may be in a position to respond to any particular question. If they're unable to do so, it can be addressed if it is brought forward in a written letter as it pertains to the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will look forward to your correspondence.

I had another question regarding the social workers and adoption services. They don't get involved with the actual adoptions, but they do the paperwork. Are you involved in the adoption cases or not? I would like clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. As I just indicated earlier to David Joanasie, member from Cape Dorset, I was trying to explain the adoption cases. There are always going to be adoption cases from the public, but we don't go looking about where those adoption cases are. We cannot take one side or another nor can we make an order such as using Inuit tradition to determine who takes the child. All we want to do is to give official consent to what is agreed to by the parties involved.

What I said was that when people use private adoption, it is totally at their discretion. It's something that we are not in the position to decide. That's what I was trying to say. I do apologize if the member did not understand about adoption cases, which can proceed privately using Inuit custom adoption practice. It is something we don't have a say in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that clarification from the minister. I have another question. It's not an adoption *per se*; it's about foster children, perhaps even an adolescent who has been abused. The foster parents are paid financially to help with meals and care of a child. How much are they paid per day? Is it only for the meals or the care of the child or is there an additional fee paid to the foster parents? I'm just asking for clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for my mistaken term I used at first, as I think I entitled you as the Speaker. My deputy minister will respond to that.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The people who are giving foster care to children or providing a home to a youth can negotiate with the Children and Family Services Division with respect to the member's question. If they receive income support and benefits, assistance for the foster children may be included in their income assistance. Perhaps it's in there. In that case, the social worker and the foster parent can negotiate that. I cannot say exactly how much they are paid. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wish to ask for more clarification. The cost of food bought in the stores is very high in Nunavut. I would like to know the answer to that in case someone asks me this question. Can they be paid on top of their income support? I'm asking that question in order to understand that clearly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. If you can ask your local social worker, then you can get more information. I'll get my deputy minister to clarify that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's the case. You can discuss it with your social worker or the income support worker. If we are fostering a child that's not our own and we want to get paid, we can discuss that with a social worker. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Family Services. Children and Family Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$59,205,000. Agreed? Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe we're on page D-5, right? I would just like to ask a question. In the business plan, it is written that the legislation and policies will be reviewed and to ensure they're being followed. You said that you're planning on reviewing the issue of adoption. One of your priorities for 2015-16 and 2016-17 is that you will review the Inuit custom adoption legislation. I think I understood that. How or what do you think needs to be changed as a result of this review? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. This question was asked already, but if the minister wants to respond, Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will respond. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can only repeat my response, to ensure that this is not abused and to ensure that there are no loopholes that can be taken advantage of by non-Inuit. I think there have been three cases where non-Inuit attempted to abuse this loophole. It is fortunate that this abuse was discovered before the request was approved. These people tried to use Inuit custom adoption to make an adoption. It's for that reason that we are reviewing it further to make sure that there are no loopholes to allow that to happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You also wanted to review different legislation to determine if there can be more improvements made. Minister, are you also going to review how families can live together better? For instance, regular people call the Children and Family Services Division as the ones breaking up families; they take children away without hesitation even when we have a brief family spat. Our own social workers break up our families for reasons based on your regulations. Therefore, is it part of your review on how you can reduce breaking up families by your department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): This has been asked more than once and I'm glad to hear that. As I responded to the first question regarding the

regulations and the legislation, we would prefer to operate under Inuit customs to improve the provision of that service and how we can improve the situation of families breaking up. We want to apply solutions that are in harmony with Inuit customs. I agreed with that person to do the review using Inuit knowledge. We want to do this to curb the incidence of breaking up families. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When will this review be completed and implemented? Minister, are you thinking that during the term of the Fourth Assembly, you will try to complete the review and implement it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I responded in the positive earlier without setting a date to conduct the review. People are thinking today that it should be more in Inuit customs and traditions. That is what I said. I will push to have that review done and get those dates identified. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes and my question is: during the Fourth Legislative Assembly, are you going to try to implement it? If it's complete, will you be implementing them within the term of the Fourth Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): As the minister and wanting to have this review operate more in the Inuit tradition, there will be many things that we have to turn to, such as working with the agencies that work on social issues. Once we set a date, starting from there during this spring session, I know that we won't have a complete set of solutions. We can provide an update at that time on what kind of schedule we can work under on when the decisions will be made. We will have a better idea at that time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will ask questions at the spring session.

Let me move on to page 137 of the Inuktitut version. It states, Headquarters, \$2,542,000. To date, \$1,376,000 has been spent. Please remind me, this increase of over \$1 million, what that is for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. This was already asked, but if the minister wants to respond, Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 137, what does this concern? Thank you. I just want clarification.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the business plan for 2016-19, page 137, Headquarters, \$1,376,000 for 2015-16 and for 2016-17, \$2,542,000. Mr. Chairman, I apologize. I had to leave for a while. You said it was already asked. I'm sorry for asking again, but I want to understand as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) In the business plan in English, it's on page 129 regarding CFS Headquarters. You guys had already answered, but the member is seeking an answer again. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our official will clarify that, Ms. Vardy.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you. If I can ask again what page exactly so that I know what line item we're being asked. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. CFS Headquarters. He's asking what the increment is in particular from 2015-16, \$1,360,000 to 2016-17, \$2,542,000. Can you explain and answer what the increment is? Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That over \$1 million increase under that line, Child and Family Services Headquarters, is re-profiled money from adult services and that is meant for legal services for our child protection workers and their obligations to comply with the *Child and Family Services Act*. That is meant for legal

services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So that I'll have a clear understanding, you will be utilizing over \$1 million for legal services just so we can have more advice from legal services? Is that what you said? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Our official will respond to that question again.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have a contract with a legal firm from Yellowknife and that amount is over \$1 million to provide the services for Family Services. We have to go through the Department of Justice to be able to acquire that kind of service, to get that referral from the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not trying to stay on the same topic, but it's over \$1 million. I was wondering why there's a huge increase all of a sudden. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Our official will respond again. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is not an increase overall for the branch; it's just a realigned amount from adult services. It was previously in Adult Support Services, which we're trying to really put the budget in the right line so that we will be able to provide a proper report and monitoring of our expenditures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Now I understand the way it's written for Adult Support Services. It was around \$3 million, but it's now \$738,000 and it's realigned to CFS Headquarters from Adult Support Services. The funding is almost depleted and it has been realigned to CFS Headquarters for legal services. Do I understand that correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy minister will respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When Family Services first started, we didn't have a finance controller and a policy analyst in the department. As we're settling down, we now have a financial person with Ms. Vardy here now. She is identifying what funds were where so that the funding will not be reallocated elsewhere. It was

restated so that we can actually have a better estimate.

I want the members to know that for Adult Support Services, we are not going to deplete the funding because they have other sources of funding. We're now fixing up the finances properly and we're using our plan based on the expenditures that we had. The staff is now being hired and the department is settling down.

As the minister said yesterday in his opening comments, there might be increases and reductions on some line items. He already stated that they were being restated to reflect actual costs. That is why there seems to be a lot of change, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe we're still in the 2015-16 fiscal year and this is what you're requesting for the 2016-17 fiscal year. You want to increase it by over \$1 million. It's now evident that the funding was insufficient for 2015-16. Will we expect to get a supplementary appropriation proposal because \$1.3 million is insufficient? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My official will respond to the question. If the member can repeat his question, please. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Can you please repeat your question, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll just repeat it again because it's very simple. As we know, now you have a competent financial person. Previously, the estimates were incomplete; some items were not spent while some other items were overspent. As the deputy minister said, these numbers are being corrected. That is what I understood.

With regard to \$2.5 million that I am asking about, do you believe that is going to be adequate? Following your request, it is now clear that the expenditures for 2015-16 were way too small. Can I expect in the House to get a supplementary appropriation request to make up the funding for 2015-16 that was insufficient? You said it would have to be around \$2 million. Is that what we can expect? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our official, Ms. Vardy, will respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can only do the best we can to monitor our spending patterns. We are in the third year of our operation. What we're seeing in adult services is that we are not spending all of the money and what it cost to us is that we are looking at our variance reporting, big differences, big minus and big surpluses, and it doesn't really help us in planning and look at our future expenditures.

Based on our three-year spending patterns, we are not spending all the money and we know that there are some costs or expenditures like legal services that are not supposed to be there and we need to really put them in the right places. We can only do so much and do it properly in terms of reporting and monitoring. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, am I being incomprehensible? My wording seems rather clear, as I can understand myself clearly. Your department is requesting \$2.5 million in this line item, which is acceptable and has legitimate uses.

What I was trying to ask about, which I have languished in trying to put the point across, relates to the \$1.3 million your department expended and the disparity between the two figures is over \$1 million, with all programs needing funding. I go back to asking if a (interpretation ends) supplementary bill (interpretation) will be forthcoming from your department.

There is disparity between the two figures, with the difference of over \$1 million, and upon cognizance of that fact, the figure jumps up to a difference of over \$2 million, yet your documentation only lists the earlier discrepancy. Will you be submitting a supplementary appropriation request? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. The earlier answer that we heard was legal services was moved up to headquarters. That's where you see the over \$1 million increment in CFS Headquarters. That's

the earlier answer that we got. If the minister would like to elaborate or add onto that, Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our official will respond again. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have made a thorough review of our budgets this year, 2015-16, and looked at our expenditures in the last two years since we started this department.

What we looked at in the Adult Support Services is that the spending patterns were so low and the costs that we have there are just more the travel and training. We know that in the last three years, likely, the costs will be moderate and that's the reason why, when there's a big budget in the line, we have to move it properly, such as moving the legal services into other areas in the headquarters.

I'm sure the member's question, if we have to come up and ask for a supplementary in adult services, at this point, the way we see it, it's not likely that we will be looking for a supplementary under Adult Support Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me try this tack to see if I can understand. For the 2015-16 budget estimates, all the way down the page on page 137 of the 2015-16 documents, it seems to me that they're just applicable due to the start-up costs

as this department was being created. To me, they could qualify as meaningless because the 2016-17 estimates are more a reflection of your actual costs.

Obviously, there was a reorganization of the department over a two- or three-year period. Do I understand it correctly?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, you understand it correctly.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Children and Family Services. Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be brief, as I want to understand this matter, although I partially grasp the issue.

You stated that your department is developing plans related to children and family services using only the western counselling methods, without any awareness of traditional Inuit methods. Within your business plan, a matter we keep wanting included as Inuit, which our people really want repatriated, is our traditional counselling methods.

This is very paternalistic as families are now handcuffed by social services. They have bound our hands by disallowing Inuit the ability to discipline our own children. As we attempt to correct our children's behaviour, if the worker finds out we spanked our children or we are reported, even as the father disciplining their child according to tradition, the child is apprehended. That seems to be the goal here.

Perhaps, in your business plan, I request a correction about the part about disciplining our children and reprimanding them. Will you be dealing with that issue in your business plan or are we going to be using the western way of dealing with social issues? Are we going to be using that to eternity? Please provide me with clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask exactly where the member's question is coming from. If the member can elaborate on the page number so that we can respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleague, Joe Enook, asked this question about the Department of Family Services to make sure that you are planning things correctly along the lines of the Inuit way. I am concerned about the fact that we have been handcuffed by the Department of Family Services.

We're not thinking about money, but this has to be included. If I slap my child, then my child would be apprehended. That is not right. It's the law in Nunavut. While you're planning to include Inuit ways, I would like this to be included in your planning for 2016-17 so that we can improve Inuit lives, not through the Qallunaat way. I'm not even talking about money. You said that you're planning this for all of Nunavut

to include the Inuit ways. In your business plan, can this also be considered? I hope you understand what I'm saying, Mr. Minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The different groups that the Department of Family Services works with in and out of Nunavut are all affected by what we're talking about. With regard to what my colleague is talking about, the Department of Family Services works with these different groups to see how we can include that. That's what we do. In our plans and following what Mr. Okalik and Mr. Enook were asking about, I can only respond the same way as I responded to the other two that counselling is part of that as well.

My deputy minister can expand on my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Family Services will never institute a plan related to our children and whether or not spanking is allowed. Any kind of disciplinary violence will not be included. However, what we will plan is how to end the cycle of violence, especially towards our children.

Further, the inclusion of Inuit who are well versed in counselling is something we support and we urge them to get involved prior to the government stepping in. If a social worker is apprised

of an incident or if they learn about it, since it is part of the law today, they have to follow the regulations since the western ideal is never to inflict violence on children or youth. No citizen should experience violence. The corporate position is that we will never include that in any plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I now stop my fight against this as the departmental overlords will never respond to this issue, so I will leave it at that. However, at a future point, I will endeavour to once again raise the issue, but I am very regretful that this government denigrates the Inuit traditions and will never recognize it. That is all I have left. This is just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Family Services. Children and Family Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$59,205,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Before we continue on to the next page, which is D-6, we will take a 15-minute break.

>>Committee recessed at 17:57 and resumed at 18:21

Chairman: Thank you. I would now like to call the committee meeting back to order.

Members, before we proceed, I have a brief statement about asking questions that have already been asked. As per the guidelines in our rules in regard to questions to ministers, I will exercise my discretion as your Chair and I will not allow questions that have already been asked. I ask members to be aware of the questions being asked of the minister so that you won't repeat them. Thank you.

Family Services. Branch Summary. Income Assistance. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$54,156,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first question I want to ask is related to students attending post-secondary institutions. There are two funding programs specific to students, with one being a loan that is contingent on the person returning to Nunavut to work, including non-Inuit who receive this assistance, and the loan is forgiven when they return to work in Nunavut.

When are the funds released to the students who are taking post-secondary courses in the south? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask what page that is on. What kinds

of students are you asking about? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Maybe I'll speak in English. (interpretation ends) From what I understand, under FANS, there are various programs in place. There are forgivable loans that are provided to non-beneficiary students and other forms provided to Inuit students. I want to know when those forgivable loans that are going into post-secondary institutions down south are given to the student. That's my first question.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our official will explain how the budget was made.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those forgivable loans given to students studying outside the territory can also be collected as long as they work, they stay in Nunavut for a certain number of months and years. There's a remission of loans that's allowed for them to be applied as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I think my question was: when does the money flow to the student who has that forgivable loan? When does the money start going to the student? That's my question. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. My official will respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The money flows to students once the applications or loans have been approved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) So the student can have the money before the schooling starts down south for those that have this forgivable loan. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy minister will respond to that.

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

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we're talking about just FANS and they are going south to secondary education, in the event that all the applications, paperwork, and admission to the college or school are all in place, that's when the money is distributed to a student. What the career development officers do is try to help the students ahead of time so that when they go, they have funding with them, that

they don't go down there without any money. That's a concern that we have, to make sure that all the students and the colleges and universities are doing their paperwork and documentation so that we could disburse the money. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik: Okay, that's interesting. From what I understand, for Inuit that do get a grant and are not eligible for that forgivable loan because they're getting a grant, they wait up to two to three weeks after they have started their courses and they don't get paid until all the paperwork, after they have been in school, has been provided. That could be up to 10 days and they don't get any money through FANS. Is there any way of adjusting that so that they're not punished for being Inuit? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We really encourage people to take secondary education and I think everybody is. When the person wants to go somewhere, we do what we can, but the FANS or the funders are not the only ones that need to do something. It's also their admittance; they have the application in place and admittance to university or college or where they are going to go take the training.

Once everything is in place, we actually try to do applications by July. Now, there's another issue. A lot of people are on holidays in July and August and that's one of the issues. Once everything is in place, that's when they get their money. We try very hard to make sure that people are going with funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The practice is just not fair for Inuit students. A student is always struggling. I have been through it. When you don't have money, you need to eat and you need to buy books when you start your classes. Those are expenses that you incur as a student.

Can this department adjust their practices and support students when they need it the most, when they incur the most costs at the beginning of their courses? When they're moving for the first time, they have to buy furnishings and those expenses. Can the department look at adjusting their payment practices for these students that we claim we support? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. It's all outlined in the criteria when they can apply. There are deadlines: July 15, November 15, and March 1. We need to do something about my colleague's concern, as far as I can see. We will review that to see how we can improve it so that it applies equally to everyone in the same way,

with no one being favoured over another. It's clear what my colleague said about treating everyone the same. That can be amended and made better. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If that is amended, I would like to be notified in the House. I would like them to explain to the House how they amended the policy. It's really inconvenient for the students. Perhaps, in the fall session, I would like a report on what was done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that will be the only way to go. We will make sure that we give you an update because I'm sure there is room for improvement in the FANS system. We do hear that there is a delay in receiving the actual funds, even though their application was approved.

I will make sure that I have the information and give you an update perhaps in the spring sitting. I could give you further information and an update on that in the spring sitting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. I'm done with that for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a question for clarification, that is, if I'm understood. Career Development is responsible for giving funds through FANS and provide other benefits. I have seen students who go through hardships when they go to higher education for a year or more.

There was a case of a student who had to take upgrading before they could take the preferred course. That happens to some students. They have to do an upgrading for a year or more before they can be eligible to go to their program of choice. I'm specifically talking about the FANS program. With the FANS program, I think the student is eligible to receive the funding only if they're going to go to school for two or more years. Is there a policy stating that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I believe I identified some of those items. If you will be submitting an application, there are specified days to apply before your courses start. That is what I was trying to convey here.

In addition, the officials who administer this program are present and they can provide more details. Perhaps I will ask Ms. Vardy to supplement my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A student who is approaching post-secondary education can apply for FANS and we have the deadline of July

15 for fall programs, November 15 for winter programs, and March 1 for spring.

We try to communicate this a lot more to everybody so that they can submit their application, go through the process, as well as getting applications to other institutions as well because FANS approval is also dependent on other schools and getting information from NAC and universities down south. We try to make that clear to the students.

We have career development officers who are really putting a lot of effort in providing this information out to students, existing students, and even to high school students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps my question was muddled, but I was asking about the benefits provided to students wishing to take courses and whether or not limitations exist. If their courses are over a period of two years or more, will the limit be imposed or will that eligibility to receive funding assistance be limited to a specified number of years?

How many years can a student take courses before reaching a limit? Is it three years or is it two years or however long the course is? Is there a limit to the FANS program? I hope I am understandable here, as I am asking if there is a limit to funding assistance to our students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The students will get paid from the time they start school to the end of the school year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you. Do I now understand that when a student takes courses or work placement skill programs, if the schooling the student is taking runs for three years or less or surpassing three years, there is no limit? If the student takes a three-year course, can they receive funding for the entire length of their course? Do I understand that correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy minister will respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is how the criteria is set. If a person wishes to take medical courses to attain a doctoral degree, it might last over five years. It depends on the student's choice and the length of time to complete their education. That is determination factor, not a set number. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response as it was clear and

understandable. This is just a clarification request so that it will be understood by the listening audience who are interested in taking courses.

Is it only if the individual requests funding assistance from FANS...? Let's say that the student was going to school (interpretation ends) part time, (interpretation) which I don't know the term in Inuktitut, does it disqualify them? If a course has intermittent periods in between modules, let us say, over a period of one year with several different courses throughout the year, does that make that student ineligible for funding assistance from FANS? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this to my deputy minister. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For everyone's information, because we have employees out there, there's an office in Arviat. If you're going to be taking a course that's divvied up into seminars, you will have to make sure you get the information about payment prior to beginning your school year.

There are many rules that we have to follow, but there are ways to go around it so that the student would get funds. There are career development officers in Arviat and in some other communities where you can get all that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have seen students who are in dire straits. This individual took a two-year program, but at the end of two years, they were no longer eligible for FANS. The program was for three years, so they were no longer eligible to receive any benefits from your department. That was the question I had and now I know what the problem is and that it can be reviewed.

I have another question regarding income assistance while being a student. If they take a one-year course and if they fail at the end of the day, even though they didn't drop out, does that mean they're no longer eligible for support because they haven't completed or they failed their course? I hope I was clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): I will refer this to my deputy minister. Thank you.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Any person taking courses, where that student has never chosen to drop out voluntarily, will continue to receive income support for the remainder of the courses throughout the year. This would apply even if the course or school semester dates were changed arbitrarily. The student has no choice in those types of matters, but it would require careful consideration,

perhaps on a case-by-case basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, I really wanted that kind of information. To take my question a little further, a student who is going to school for a year or more usually goes to the second year once the first year is done. Even if they fail, are they still eligible to continue their education? Did I understand that correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this to my deputy minister. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would need to have a discussion with the student to determine the exact cause for failing. If this student dropped out without a good reason or did not have good attendance, that would be a different story. While that student is going to school and there are delays in between, he or she will continue to be provided benefits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) What if the student fails and wanted to do the same course? Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this again to my deputy minister.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's why we have career development officers in some of the communities and we have office in Arviat so that people could know how they could go back to school and what was the reason. They were not studying or they were not attending school, is that why they failed? There are many things that can contribute to somebody that is failing. That's why we don't have one answer today.

It's very good if people can go to a career development officer. We also have websites for career development. Because Family Services has different funding, there is other funding that is available. If this one was not available, another one is available. There are many things. What I'm trying to say tonight is talk with career development because every situation is different. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Career Development. Following the list of names, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Somebody already asked the same questions I was going to refer to, so this is somewhere in between. It is a follow-up to my colleague's question.

Usually after the completion of grade 12, students can go to higher education and continue their education. Being young, there's little doubt that they have a career in mind. There are many career opportunities for young people. Some require additional education for a number of years.

Could students look at the career options and decide which one they would like to head for? Would it be possible for the school principal to help the student decide on their career options? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. I will refer this to my deputy minister.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Following up on my previous comments on career counsellors in your community, if there are none in your community, students can approach income support workers. There are many people interested in taking pre-employment training or job placement courses.

To use an example, several venues exist for students wishing to take Arctic College courses. For pre-employment courses today, there are 969 Inuit students taking that route. Further, within the adult education centres are another 506 Inuit students taking the same pre-employment courses. There is a high number of students taking on-the-job training in Nunavut which total 56

people in 2015-16. In Canada and Nunavut programs, there are also courses available in career advancement being taken by 111 students. There are different types of courses available.

Career development officers can be approached for further information. There's also assistance while taking grades 10, 11, and 12 in high school. School counsellors can also help prepare them. Once they finish grade 12, they can also be provided counselling on where they may want to go to school.

There are many people available. It can be difficult sometimes to know where these professionals are situated, but there are social workers available in every community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions are not that numerous, but they pertain to the FANS program. If you look at page D-9, it lists an amount under the Grants line item, Student Financial Assistance, of \$7 million, but I don't see any contributions listed. Are these numbers specific to grants only, are they just loans, or are there contributions as well with larger amounts that students are eligible to apply? Are there any other funds provided outside of grants? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Vardy will respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The student financial assistance is flowed through grants. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On another matter, at the start of the last fiscal year on April 1, 2015, an announcement was made that the FANS program funding levels had been increased on a per student capita. It was increased to \$6,855 to be provided to each student annually for textbooks and other learning materials that the student must pay for. After this limit was changed, have you seen an increase in the numbers of applicants to this fund? What about people who want to take social service courses under your department compared to last year's figures? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister will respond to that question.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Yes, that is the situation as it stands. The FANS program used to have a limit of \$3,700 in the past. We requested an increase to that amount and it was approved by the

Assembly to be increased to \$6,855. It is fairly well equivalent to a 50 percent increase.

With respect to the member's question about whether or not we have seen an increase in the number of applicants, what we can tell you is that to date, there are 346 students under this category, there are 153 students attending Nunavut Arctic College, and for the other institutions, there are 193 students taking courses. These are broken down into more details, with female applicants totalling 259 students and male applicants totalling 87. If you include the aboriginal students who have applied, they total 285 students. For non-Inuit who reside in Nunavut who have applied for funding assistance, there are 61 all together.

It's hard to tell whether there was an increase and talking about who are continuing their education and on-the-job training, it's a large number and that's good to see. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you also say if you refuse some applicants for funding? Are there people who were refused funding and, if so, can you tell me the number? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): So that I don't answer incorrectly, my deputy minister will respond.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot tell you the number. No one will be refused unless there is a reason. Perhaps people can be refused if they had not completed grade 12 and the course he or she wants to take has a requirement. There can be different reasons. We don't refuse them just for the sake of refusal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. You provide funding of \$6,855 per student. What about the expenses they have to pay to the schools like tuition and textbooks, as well as accommodations? If their expenses exceed that amount, what else can the students do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy minister will respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department has over \$2 million for day-to-day living expenses as well as for school supplies, textbooks, and tuition. All together, there is \$865,000, depending on the number of students. For travelling expenses, some need to fly to attend university. I can use the following example. In 2015-16, we

provided \$8,564,000 to students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let's say a student went to college and their tuition was \$10,000 to \$12,000. If the \$6,000 is not enough, would the loan that was mentioned have to be accessed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): My deputy minister will respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The student needs to know what their funding requirements are. They can be provided help for tuition and all other expenses will be taken care of. Prior to their travel and all preparations are completed, we will not let them leave with less money than they need. Because of that, students need not be worried about applying for more funding in between.

If I can say it in English, (interpretation ends) people have to budget. Potential students will be assisted when they are going to a certain school in the south. They have to do the budget. They have to learn to budget. They would get assistance for how to budget that. I'm sure that if the money was short somehow, and if it was not misused, the cost of something had gone up, I'm sure that they could be assisted, but it depends on the case. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is with regard to student assistance. If the student has lived in Nunavut for less than a year, are they still eligible for that assistance? For instance, there is an eligibility requirement for housing. Does the same thing apply for someone who just arrived to Nunavut by air? Can they apply and be approved? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The rule requires that students have to reside in Nunavut for one year. For other programs, there is a three-year residency requirement for things like loans. There are different loan programs available. In addition, there are forgivable loans which apply mainly to land claims beneficiaries. There is a variety of loan programs available. If students need certain funding, those rules would apply. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Part of my question about the FANS funding of \$6,855 is this: is that taxable to the student? Are taxes deducted from that? We do income taxes annually. Are taxes deducted from that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): I'll refer this to my official.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe it's included in the tax and there are T4 forms that are issued to them. However, because their income is very low, it's less than \$20,000 and there's no payment that's required for students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving on to another topic, I have a question on page D-9 for Nunavut Sivuniksavut. For 2014-15, you provided them with \$75,000 and there was no money allocated last year. Is it because they never requested for that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Vardy will respond to that.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Modesto-Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is continuing support for the Sivuniksavut program and that's \$175,000 that was issued this year. However, the reason why it doesn't show in the main estimates document is because we were able to issue the money after we prepared the main estimates document. We finalized the draft main estimates document around November and the money was issued for the NS

program a month after. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$20,141,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Back to page D-3. Department Summary. Family Services. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$140,906,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Family Services?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Closing comments, Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, members, for approving these main estimates for the Department of Family Services. We want to improve the department's operations so that we can provide the services required by Nunavummiut. I know that with your approval, it's going to improve services to the public. I understand the fact that you want support and I'm very grateful.

I know the department's operations have not changed much for quite some time. I know that the O&M for the department is going to enhance and improve its operations and services. We still have not completed the department's overhaul

and we still have a lot to do in order to provide social services in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out.

(interpretation ends) Thank you. We will take a five-minute break before we proceed to the next department, which will be the Department of Finance. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 19:10 and resumed at 19:17

Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 – Finance – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good evening. We can proceed with our meeting. We will be dealing with the Department of Finance. At this time, I would like to ask Minister Peterson if he has officials that he would like to bring to the table. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two witnesses that I would like to have at the table with me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Committee, the minister would like two witnesses at the table. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Peterson, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Chris D'Arcy, Deputy Minister of Finance, and to my left is Christine Bens, Director of Corporate Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome to the House, Mr. D'Arcy and Ms. Bens. At this time, I would like to give you an opportunity to make your opening comments. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to discuss the 2016-17 main estimates and business plan of the Department of Finance.

This year, we are continuing to focus our energies on *Sivumut Abluqta* priorities and strengthening human resources management within the government.

The ethics officer assumed his duties on April 1, 2015. When a Government of Nunavut employee has concerns of impropriety or wrongdoing within the GN, there is now a mechanism in place for reporting these concerns. Mr. Chairman, as you are aware, within six months from the end of the fiscal year, the ethics officer will provide me with a report as per section 53(1) of the *Public Service Act*. That report will then be tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

Last year, we started working with departments to review and audit their grants and contributions policies and processes to ensure compliance with the *Financial Administration Manual*

(FAM) and assure that the Government of Nunavut receives good value for money from grant and contribution recipients. This work will continue into 2016-17.

Work also continues to address harassment in the workplace. Materials have been developed and distributed. Deputy ministers and human resource coordinators have had information sessions and on February 12 to 16, our executive management team visited communities in the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq to provide seminars to Government of Nunavut managers.

The *Human Resource Strategy* was tabled in 2014-15 and a lot of work has already been done to implement it. During the coming year, we will continue our work to update the directives in the Human Recourses Manual and continue our continuous improvement processes in staffing, employee relations, and job evaluation.

Mr. Chairman, last year, we updated five directives and we currently have nine more in the works. We have established directives for internal and restricted competitions, including competitions for beneficiaries only, the disclosure of wrongdoing, and staffing appeals.

We are expanding opportunities for student work experience and conducting a review to improve our Financial Internship Program.

This year, we have reassumed responsibility for the Liquor Licensing Board from the Department of Justice. Finance is now solely responsible for all components of the *Liquor Act*. This transfer is effective April 1, but

members may notice that the main estimates for the department were restated from last year with the inclusion of an additional \$250,000 for the Liquor Licensing Board's budget.

The Nunavut Liquor Commission will roll out a social responsibility campaign this year to inform and educate Nunavummiut on the responsible use of beverage alcohol. An experienced consulting team, Context Research Ltd., has been selected to develop this campaign and work is currently underway.

Once again, we tabled the public accounts during the fall sitting of the House. This was the second time in Nunavut's history and goes to show the continued steady improvements that we have made and will continue to make in the government's financial management.

Mr. Chairman, I will now turn to a brief overview of the department's budget.

Finance has five core lines of business: Directorate, Policy, Planning and Financial Management, Internal Audit Services, Comptrollership, and Centrally Administered Funds.

For 2016-17, the Department of Finance has been allocated \$94.3 million for operations and maintenance expenditures. This is an increase of \$2.8 million, or 3.1 percent, to the \$91.5 million allocated in 2015-16.

Mr. Chairman, that increase is made up of:

- GN insurance premiums, \$425,000;

- Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission premiums, \$660,000;
- Nunavut Electrical Subsidy Program, \$212,000;
- Government of Nunavut employee medical travel, \$950,000;
- Centralized leave and attendance, \$345,000;
- NCC lease increase, \$25,000;
- Continuous service bonus, \$107,000; and
- Other operations and maintenance, \$75,000.

The major components of the department's budget are:

- \$33.5 million for compensation and benefits;
- \$6.5 million for other operations and maintenance costs in the department; and
- \$54.3 million for centrally administered funds, including:
 - \$25.3 million for government-wide employee benefits, such as dental premiums, workers' compensation premiums, and employee medical travel;
 - \$10.3 million for the lease costs of the Legislative Assembly building and the office buildings constructed to support our decentralized government structure;

- \$10.7 million for energy subsidies and contributions;
- \$5.9 million for Government of Nunavut's insurance premiums; and
- \$3.1 million for the Nunavut Child Benefit.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Does the chair of the standing committee have opening comments? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to deliver opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the proposed 2016-17 Main Estimates and 2016-19 Business Plan of the Department of Finance.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2016-17 operations and maintenance budget of \$94.3 million has increased by approximately 3.3 percent since the introduction of the department's 2015-16 main estimates. The number of positions in the department is 271. This is an increase of four positions from the 2015-16 main estimates.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members took the opportunity to raise a number of issues and concerns.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Finance provides support to the Financial Management Board. A

government-wide issue for which the Financial Management Board has responsibility is the size of the public service.

The total number of positions in the government continues to increase. The government's proposed 2016-17 main estimates indicate that there are approximately 4,578 positions in the government's departments and major Crown agencies and territorial corporations. This represents an increase of approximately 120 positions, or 4.9 percent, over the number of positions accounted for in the government's 2015-16 main estimates.

However, the government's December 2015 quarterly employment report indicates that there were 1,313 vacant positions across the government as of December 31, 2015, which represented a vacancy rate of approximately 28 percent.

It is important that the Financial Management Board be mindful of the need to control growth in the number of government positions at a time when departments and Crown agencies face significant challenges in filling their existing vacancies and roughly one-third of the government's jobs stand empty.

It is also important for the government to be mindful of the Minister of Finance's own comments to the Committee of the Whole of March 19, 2014, when he publicly informed Members of the Legislative Assembly that the government would, from a budgeting perspective, be "...in a very difficult situation if [it were] 100 percent staffed."

It is also important to note that approximately one-third of the government's total spending is on compensation and benefits for its own workforce. For the 2016-17 fiscal year, this amounts to over a half a billion dollars.

The *Sivumut Abluqta* mandate statement, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Premier on March 20, 2014, indicates that one of the primary goals of the government is to "Review government programs to determine what is working well, what needs improvement, and what we should stop doing in order to focus our resources on enabling Nunavut's success."

In 2015, the government awarded a contract for its operational audit initiative. The department's draft 2016-19 business plan indicates that it is "working with the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs on this operational audit. Phase 1 of the audit was completed in November 2015, and Phase 2 will begin once Phase 1 results have been analysed."

The government's 2017-18 main estimates and business plans will be introduced in February or March of 2017 and the next general election will, under our new fixed election date legislation, take place in October of 2017. The ability of the government to incorporate findings and recommendations from the operational audit initiative into its 2017-18 budget is unclear, as is the extent to which the operational audit is actually considering which government programs, if any, should be discontinued or scaled back.

The 2015-16 ministerial letters of expectation to the government's five major Crown agencies and territorial corporations were not tabled in the Legislative Assembly until October 30, 2015, almost seven months into the fiscal year. The standing committee looks forward to the 2016-17 letters of expectation being tabled in the House in a more timely manner.

On November 5, 2015, the Minister of Finance tabled the government's 2014-15 annual report on grants and contributions made by all departments during that fiscal year. Between the 2004-05 and 2014-15 fiscal years, the government's grants and contributions expenditures amounted to approximately \$3.25 billion.

As members will recall, the Commissioner's Opening Address that was delivered at the beginning of the Second Session of the current Legislative Assembly announced that one of the government's priorities would be to "ensure funds provided to organizations, communities, and individuals adhere to better accountability practices that achieve the outcomes this government expects from its investment." This objective was also included in the Minister of Finance's 2014 Budget Address.

Although members recognize the need for the government to safeguard proprietary information of private entities, the purpose and goals for which public money is being provided to private entities must be disclosed. This, in turn, should assist the government and all Members of the Legislative Assembly in evaluating the extent to which grants and contributions

expenditures are actually achieving their objectives and providing value for money. Although the annual reports identify the programs under which funding was provided, the actual purpose of the funding is often not clearly explained, much less the actual results and outcomes of the spending.

The department's proposed 2016-19 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2016-17 fiscal year is to "Complete phase 2 of the audit of departmental grants and contributions." It is important that the government's work in this area clearly distinguish between ensuring that grants and contributions payments are being made in compliance with existing authorities, and evaluating the extent to which grants and contributions expenditures are actually achieving their stated objectives and providing value for money.

Amendments to the *Liquor Regulations* under the *Liquor Act* were published in the April 2014 edition of Part II of the *Nunavut Gazette*. The new provisions provide that "A maximum of \$500,000 per fiscal year, as defined in the *Financial Administration Act*, may be paid out of the Liquor Revolving Fund for expenses related to education campaigns promoting the socially responsible use of liquor under section 59.1 of the Act." It is important that annual reports of the Nunavut Liquor Commission continue to account in detail for expenditures and activities in this area. In June of 2015, new *Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store Regulations* were published in Part II of the *Nunavut Gazette*. However, the government's current timetable for commencing retail sales of beer and wine is unclear.

Mr. Chairman, amendments were passed to the territorial *Payroll Tax Act* in 2006 to increase the GN's payroll tax rate to 2 percent. The government raised \$25.24 million in payroll tax revenues during the 2014-15 fiscal year. However, it is not clear what percentage of payroll tax revenues is raised from the government's own employees and what percentage is raised from workers in other levels of government and the private sector. The standing committee continues to recommend that the minister begin the practice of tabling an annual report in the Legislative Assembly on the administration of the *Payroll Tax Act* to account for such issues.

The standing committee emphasizes the importance of timely tabling in the Legislative Assembly of key departmental publications, including the government's Public Service Annual Report and its quarterly Inuit employment reports. For example, the 2014-15 *Public Service Annual Report* was not tabled in the Legislative Assembly until February 24, 2016, 11 months after the end of the fiscal year.

The standing committee also continues to emphasize the importance of expanding the range of information contained in future editions of the Public Service Annual Report, including department-by-department breakdowns of direct appointments approved by the cabinet, absenteeism rates, and information concerning the employment of disabled persons in the public service.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee strongly supports the government's Summer Student Employment Equity Program, which provides valuable work

experience for Nunavut youth. Approximately 2,360 students, 75 percent of whom were beneficiaries, have participated in this program since 2001.

In recognition of the fact that many of our territory's smaller communities do not have a significant Government of Nunavut presence, the standing committee continues to urge the minister to consider such ideas as providing wage subsidies to municipalities and other employers to hire summer students in smaller communities that do not have a large Government of Nunavut presence. The standing committee was pleased to note that the department's 2015-18 business plan indicated that one of its priorities for the 2015-16 fiscal year was to "Expand employment opportunities for students in non-decentralized communities."

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2016-17 Main Estimates and 2016-19 Business Plan of the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. (interpretation ends) Well read.

(interpretation) Before I open the floor to questions, I would like to remind you that the contents of the minister's opening comments are covered under the different branches of the department. If you have detailed questions, please ask them under the appropriate page.

At this time, are there any general comments? Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move a motion to report progress to the Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out.

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 13 and the main estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Akoak. Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

(interpretation ends) Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22.

(interpretation) *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that there's a

meeting of the Standing Committee on Legislation at nine o'clock in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for March 10:

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 10
 - Bill 11

- Bill 12
 - Bill 13
 - Tabled Document 73 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 116 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 140 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 149 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 70 – 4(3)
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 Thursday, March 10, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 19:44*

