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**Tuesday, March 15, 2016**

**Pages 1628 – 1727**

**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

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(Amittuq)

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(Gjoa Haven)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

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

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(Aggu)  
*Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College*

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(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

**Steve Mapsalak**  
(Aivilik)

**Allan Rumbolt**  
(Hudson Bay)

**Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk**  
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**Hon. Johnny Mike**  
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**Tom Sammurtok**  
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**Joe Enook**  
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*Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole*

**Simeon Mikkungwak**  
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*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**  
(Arviat South)  
*Minister of Community and Government Services*

**Hon. George Hickers**  
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)  
*Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation*

**Paul Okalik**  
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

**Isaac Shooyook**  
(Quttiktuq)

**David Joanasic**  
(South Baffin)

**Hon. Keith Peterson**  
(Cambridge Bay)  
*Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister of Justice; Minister responsible for Labour; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission*

**Hon. Peter Taptuna**  
(Kugluktuk)  
*Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration*

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut****Tuesday, March 15, 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 10:00***Item 1: Opening Prayer**

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

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Good morning, my fellow Nunavummiut, members, ministers, and (interpretation ends) Premier.

(interpretation) Item 2. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Premier Taptuna. Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements****Minister's Statement 095 – 4(3):  
Nunavut Teacher Education  
Program**

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

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, I would like to speak to my fellow members and Nunavummiut about the accomplishments and potential of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program.

This four-year program, offered in partnership with the University of Regina, prepares Nunavummiut for exciting and rewarding careers as teachers and educators in schools across Nunavut.

As one of our longest running, flagship programs, the Nunavut Teacher Education Program has a long history of academic success and achievement. The program recognizes and builds on the importance of infusing Inuit language and culture into our school system.

Mr. Speaker, this program is more than an educational program. NTEP is also of political importance to Nunavut, as it recognizes and legitimizes Inuit knowledge, values, and perspectives through *Inuit Qaujimagatunqangit*.

Mr. Speaker, with more than 510 graduates earning a degree in education, our graduates are uniquely positioned to make significant and lasting contributions to shaping the future of education for Nunavut. Many of our NTEP graduates go on to teach in Nunavut schools while others contribute in areas related to language, culture, and education in other ways.

To all Nunavummiut, teaching is a richly rewarding career and I would like to say that we need you. We need teachers who are prepared to work with us in delivering high-quality, bilingual education in our schools across Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Nunavummiut who are interested in an exciting and rewarding challenge that makes positive contributions to our education system to consider applying to the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. Talk to your teachers, guidance counsellors, or visit one of our college locations, which can be found in every community, for more information about this incredibly rewarding program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 096 – 4(3):  
RCMP Youth Leadership  
Workshop in Regina**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From February 9 to 14, the RCMP hosted a youth leadership workshop for indigenous youth and frontline RCMP members in Regina.

I am pleased to say that two young Nunavummiut, Alysha Wilson-Maksagak of Cambridge Bay and Mikkijuk Manning of Cape Dorset, were selected to participate in this workshop among many applicants from across the territory. They were joined by an RCMP member from each of their communities.

The workshop allowed youths and frontline RCMP officers from across Canada to discuss youth crime and victim issues and develop action plans to encourage youth engagement specific to their communities. The workshop presented a great platform for the RCMP

and young people to work collaboratively to help to improve communication and police relations in their communities.

I congratulate our two young Nunavummiut who were able to participate in this worthwhile event, and I encourage the RCMP to continue this type of important community interaction and dialogue with young people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 097 – 4(3):  
Nunavut Energy Management  
Program, Iqaluit Pilot Project**

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to share information on the Government of Nunavut's Sustainable Energy Strategy as it pertains to the Nunavut Energy Management Program (NEMP).

The Nunavut Energy Management Program was introduced as part of *Ikummatiit – The Government of Nunavut's Sustainable Energy Strategy*. The NEMP Policy allows private sector investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, which are then repaid through guaranteed energy savings.

NEMP was introduced through a pilot project in Iqaluit in 2007 which addressed all of the Government of Nunavut's Iqaluit-owned buildings. The objective of the project was to



demonstrate that the Government of Nunavut could meet its 20 percent energy savings target in an economic manner as a contribution to Nunavut's obligation to improve its energy efficiency by the year 2020.

The Iqaluit pilot project has demonstrated that the GN can meet its 20 percent savings target. This was achieved with a comprehensive retrofit on lighting and equipment, heat recovery, building automatic controls, and water efficiency measures. This project is being monitored using international performance measurements and verification protocols and we have seen the actual savings are higher than what was forecasted.

In our commitment to improving energy savings and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we are creating employment and helping develop local expertise and capacity for contractors, building managers, and operators. The project also included training and educational initiatives which benefited the community in Iqaluit. We expect that in the future, the positive results of this pilot project will lead to better systems and technologies which benefit other communities in the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. George Hickes.

**Minister's Statement 098 – 4(3): NHC  
Moving Forward with Energy  
Efficiency Measures**

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a good Minister's Statement to follow up on Mr. Savikataaq's statement.

Mr. Speaker, last week, it was with great pleasure that I announced a new LED streetlight energy conservation initiative by the Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC). I am pleased to inform the legislature today of another exciting and significant pilot project by QEC, leading Nunavut towards a renewable and sustainable energy future.

On March 2, in a milestone moment, QEC successfully installed 11 test solar panels at the Iqaluit power plant. The renewable energy generated from these solar panels are now integrated into Iqaluit's electricity grid and is now being distributed to assist with powering the city.

The solar panels generate approximately 3 kilowatts of renewable energy but can be expanded using the same technical strategy to implement the pilot project. This is truly an exciting moment for Nunavut since previous renewable energy systems have never been connected to the electricity grid.

QEC's pilot project has been specifically designed as a test system for a residential model. This project will provide QEC with the technical knowledge required to realize its future plan to allow its customers to connect solar panels to their homes in order to integrate privately owned renewable energy systems that could contribute surplus energy to the city's electricity grid.

A reliable electricity supply is a top priority for QEC. Therefore, the lessons learned from this initial renewable integration project will also provide valuable data on electricity grid stability when integrating a renewable energy source to the grid system.

Mr. Speaker, QEC's solar panel project is an important step forward for Nunavut, reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and lowering harmful carbon emissions by harnessing a locally managed renewable energy source. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 099 – 4(3):  
World Tuberculosis (TB) Day**

**Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to call on the Legislative Assembly to note that March 24 is World Tuberculosis Day and share the Department of Health's continued work to reduce tuberculosis rates in the territory.

The Department of Health has responded to high rates of TB through increased staffing and development of surveillance and educational resources.

The department also continues to collaborate with research partners in such projects as the (interpretation ends) Taima 3HP study. (interpretation) This study involves a shorter course of treatment for latent TB infection (LTBI), also known as sleeping TB, by giving

two medications once weekly for 12 weeks instead of our current treatment of one medication given twice weekly for 39 weeks. The resulting improvements in treatment adherence and completion will help reduce the number of cases of tuberculosis in the future.

Although TB rates in Nunavut are still higher than the other provinces and territories of Canada, the enhanced efforts of the Department of Health are having positive results and last year, we experienced our lowest TB rates since 2007.

It is important to remember that many communities are still at risk for TB outbreaks. A variety of factors contribute to TB outbreaks, including poor nutrition, high rates of smoking, high rates of undiagnosed or untreated population with latent TB infection, and overcrowded situations. It is also worth noting that while curable, TB can be fatal if untreated.

Mr. Speaker, while the Department of Health continues to work towards reducing these high rates of TB in order to eliminate this illness, issues such as education, nutrition, housing, and employment need to be addressed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook.

**Item 3: Members' Statements**

**Member's Statement 206 – 4(3):  
Arctic Bay Success at Arctic  
Winter Games**

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, Nunavummiut who are watching the proceedings, along with my fellow residents of our community watching and our (interpretation ends) Premier (interpretation) as well as my colleagues.

I rise today to speak about a celebratory matter, as I am quite proud of the achievement of one of my constituents who participated in the Arctic Winter Games in Greenland, and I just received a letter that coincides with this statement.

This individual participated in the Dene games in the junior men's category for the snow snake competition. Curtis Willie received the bronze ulu by coming in third place. In the junior men's stick pull competition, Curtis Daniel Willie got the silver ulu by coming in second place. For the overall junior men's Dene games champion, Curtis Daniel Willie received another silver ulu by placing second overall.

In the men's open snow snake competition, Tom Naqitaqvik got the silver ulu as he placed in second place and Thomas Levi got the bronze ulu by placing third, and this is all in the Dene games categories. For the men's open stick pull, Lionel Enoogoo Willie got the bronze medal.

For the Dene pole push competition, the junior men's team representing Nunavut got the gold ulu, and the Arctic Bay youth who were on that team were: Curtis Daniel Willie, Dominik Qaqqasiq,

Donovan Qaunaq, and Andrew [Reid] comprised the gold ulu winning team.

I am very proud of these athletes who represented Arctic Bay by participating in the Dene games and who are returning with medals. I am quite proud of their achievement.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 207 – 4(3):  
Appointment Process for Senior  
Officials**

**Mr. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the residents of Chesterfield Inlet and Rankin Inlet. Have a good day.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make a brief but clear statement concerning the process by which presidents of our three main Crown agencies and territorial corporations are appointed.

Mr. Speaker, a number of important questions have been asked during our current winter sitting concerning the government's process for appointing a president of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, the president of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, and the president of Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, the three pieces of legislation that established these Crown agencies and territorial corporations all provide for a formal role for the board of directors and the responsible minister for

each entity regarding the appointment of the president. However, the practical reality appears to be that the final decision is made by the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, as I noted earlier in our sitting, it is perfectly appropriate for the Premier to appoint the deputy ministers of the government departments. I have also noted that the *Public Service Act* is perfectly clear on this issue with respect to government departments.

However, there is obviously a need for the government to take a close look at whether or not the three pieces of legislation that established the three Crown agencies and territorial corporations in question should be amended in this area to ensure that all of our statutes and processes are clear, reasonable, and consistent.

Mr. Speaker, I will be following up on this issue when the House reconvenes for its spring session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 208 – 4(3):  
Congratulations to Wife, Emily**

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my colleagues and people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of pride and envy for my wife Emily's achievement in obtaining her Master's Degree in Education.

Mr. Speaker, my wife has shown great determination and commitment to

education. Growing up, her dream job was to become a teacher. She started her studies down south in Peterborough, Ontario, at Trent University and got her Bachelor of Arts Degree.

We then moved to Iqaluit in 2008 where she continued her studies and completed the Nunavut Teacher Education Program at Nunavut Arctic College and received her Education Degree from the University of Regina in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, my wife started teaching at the Joamie School in 2012, where she currently leads the grade 2 class in their learning.

Two years ago, I supported her decision to pursue her Master's Degree in Education from the University of Prince Edward Island. I am extremely proud of her for following through with her formal education. Mr. Speaker, she is an amazing example to others who are pursuing their dreams of higher education or have a dream job in mind.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating my wife and her peers at UPEI Master of Education Program on their successes and for their outstanding contributions to the future of Nunavut. They have fully committed themselves for our children and our students. Let's be proud of our teachers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 209 – 4(3): Coral Harbour Wins Gold at Avataq Cup**

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise this morning to express my pride and happiness with the people of Coral Harbour.

The Avataq Cup hockey tournament was held in Rankin Inlet and this was the last tournament for the year. The Coral Harbour team got the gold and during the entire tournament, they were undefeated. The Coral Harbour team got the gold and the cup, so I just wanted to have everybody join me in expressing my pride. They were performed very well in the tournament.

I would like my colleagues here to help me express my pride to the Coral Harbour hockey team and all the hockey teams that went to compete in Rankin Inlet. Coral Harbour got the gold medal and brought home the cup. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 210 – 4(3): Igloolik Bronze Medal Winner at Arctic Winter Games**

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are very proud of the athletes that recently participated at the Arctic Winter Games in Greenland. We have heard of many people from Nunavut who won ulus and we are very proud of them.

From our community of Igloolik, we had one athlete and I am very proud of that athlete. Nujaliah Iyerak is one of my cousin's grandchildren. The Nunavut table tennis team got the bronze ulu. I'm not sure what you call bronze in Inuktitut, but it's kind of brownish. They won the bronze medal, so I'm very proud of them.

To all the athletes from Nunavut who went to compete in Greenland and hockey tournaments over here, I'm very proud of all of you. Please continue doing physical activity. Recreation is very good for our youth, so I encourage all of you to keep doing that.

Once again, Nujaliah Iyerak, we are very proud of you. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 211 – 4(3): Pangnirtung Success at Arctic Winter Games**

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, people of Nunavut and Pangnirtung. The people of Pangnirtung are in my thoughts.

Mr. Speaker, I also expressed my pride this previous week. I explained that the Pangnirtung team for the Arctic Winter Games, Myca Nakashuk in badminton, got the silver medal in the Arctic Winter Games. I'm very proud of her.

Myca was presented with a medal, along with the other Nunavut athletes. I'm

very proud of all the athletes who got ulus. This is one step from the gold. She came in second, but that's fine. The ones that didn't get medals from Pangnirtung are Mason Angnakak with the volleyball team and Gregory Atagoyuk with the hockey team. I'm very proud of them and all the coaches and helpers.

The Minister of Sport, Joe Savikataaq, I thank him very much because he was heavily involved in the opening ceremonies in Greenland. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 212 – 4(3):  
Baker Lake Success at Arctic  
Winter Games**

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate Megan Hachey and Dawn Hinga of Team Nunavut's female junior basketball team that won the bronze medal. I congratulate them because they competed very well. I also congratulate the Baker Lake athletes who participated.

Lastly, happy birthday to my daughter, Tina Mikkungwak. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. (interpretation) Minister

of Community and Government Services, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions**

**Return to Oral Question 208 – 4(3):  
Status of Environmental  
Protection Compliance Orders**

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral question asked by Mr. Rumbolt, asked of the Minister of Community and Government Services, the number is 208 –4(3), the date it was asked is March 2, 2016, and the subject is the status of environmental protection compliance orders.

Question:

“During our recent fall sitting, the government's most recent set of public accounts were tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, buried deep within this document in very small print is a section that caused me some concern. I will read it into the record. ‘The Government's Petroleum Products Division and [the] Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC) received Environmental Protection Compliance Orders (EPCOs) from Environment Canada related to contraventions of regulations for Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products at selected facilities in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Whale Cove and Sanikiluaq. (...) The work to comply with the regulations at these facilities was commenced in 2014-15 and is to be completed during the 2015-16 fiscal year.’

Can the minister update the House today on the status of the government's work to ensure that the facilities in Sanikiluaq,

Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Whale Cove are in compliance with federal regulations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.”

**Response:**

STSR (Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations) came into effect starting June 12, 2008. Owners and operators of storage tank systems were given four years from June 12, 2008 to update and bring storage tank systems to be code compliant, meeting CCME's (Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment) *Environmental Code of Practice for Above and Underground Storage Tank Systems Containing Petroleum and Allied Products*.

Environment Canada issued draft EPCOs, which is Environmental Protection Compliance Orders, for Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Whale Cove, and Sanikiluaq starting in 2012. The Petroleum Products Division requested Environment Canada not to issue binding EPCOs for the above communities.

Once a binding EPCO is issued, the owner and operator of a storage tank system has 180 days to address the EPCO. If the owner/operator failed to address the binding EPCO in the stipulated time, Environment Canada can penalize the owner/operator and has the authority to shut down the facility.

PPD is working closely with Environment Canada to address the EPCOs. The GN hired contractors to address EPCOs starting in 2014. Detailed designs, shipping schedules, and icing conditions delayed the arrival

of construction material in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Whale Cove, and Sanikiluaq. As of now, construction material is on site in all the four communities tagged with Environment Canada's EPCOs.

More than 70 percent of the work to address EPCOs in Iqaluit and Sanikiluaq is completed. Construction work was suspended in the winter of 2015 with a tentative date to commence early spring of 2016. The tentative date to [completely] address EPCOs in the communities of Sanikiluaq, Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Whale Cove is set as fall of 2016. Once completed, Iqaluit, Sanikiluaq, Rankin Inlet, and Whale Cove will be in compliance with Environment Canada regulations.

A new storage tank system in Cambridge Bay is 95 percent complete. The Cambridge Bay tank farm is the only tank farm built in compliance with Environment Canada regulations. The tentative date for substantial completion of the tank farm is scheduled in the fall of 2016.

PPD is anticipating the five facilities (Rankin Inlet, Iqaluit, Whale Cove, Sanikiluaq, and Cambridge Bay) will be Environment Canada code compliant by the fall of 2016.

FMB has approved \$17.75 million in the next five-year capital plan starting in 2016-17 to bring 13 tank farms to be Environment Canada code compliant. These 13 Nunavut communities do not require capacity upgrades in the next 5 to 15 years. That is the reason being put on priority. The rest of the Nunavut communities will and may come for capacity upgrades in the next five or ten

years. The GN will address the code compliance of the rest of the communities during capacity upgrades. This is cost-effective and required funds will be addressed in the coming years with no or little impact on future capital plans.

PPD has shared with Environment Canada officials approval of \$17.75 million in the next five-year capital plan. PPD has further advised Environment Canada officials on PPD's future plans to address and bring remaining PPD facilities to be Environment Canada code compliant. Environment Canada officials are satisfied with the progress made by PPD to bring PPD facilities to be code compliant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Allan Rumbolt.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 281 – 4(3): Hudson Bay Consortium

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good morning.

Mr. Speaker, the other day, I tabled some documents regarding the Hudson Bay Consortium and today, I would like to ask a few questions to the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

As the minister is aware, efforts have been underway for some time to establish an inter-jurisdictional body to implement a large-scale monitoring

program for the James Bay and Hudson Bay ecosystems. This work follows from one of the key recommendations contained in the *Certificate of Authorization for the Rupert River Eastmain-1A Hydroelectric Project*.

Can the minister outline what support and funding the Government of Nunavut is currently providing to the Hudson Bay Consortium? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of entities involved in the newly formed Hudson Bay Consortium. In fact, there are over 30 communities involved in this new consortium that has been formed.

I appreciate the fact that Sanikiluaq Arctic Eider Society has been involved in this. Mr. Speaker, I can recall that there have been many initiatives that have been set forward by Sanikiluarmitut through that organization.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, the Nunavut government is involved as a member of the Nunavut Hudson Bay Interagency Working Group and there's a lot of work yet to coordinate through that before the Nunavut government can identify funding for this consortium.

In the meantime, the process of setting up a secretariat or a committee from that consortium to coordinate all the issues that the community faces, there are many organizations that are involved in this, including Ontario, Manitoba,



Quebec, and Canada where several departments are involved; the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Environment Canada, Indigenous and Aboriginal Affairs Canada, Health Canada, Natural Resources Canada, and I appreciate the fact that there are many inter-jurisdictional partners in this.

Once we have a group that can identify what is needed for the consortium, the consortium goes to ensure that there is environmental stewardship in one of Canada's, if not the world's, biggest inland seas. At this point, we're quite aware that there is no environmental governance or developmental governance within this vast area, so we would be working very closely as we are involved in the interagency group. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In its recent letter to the federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, who is also Nunavut's Member of Parliament, the Hudson Bay Consortium noted that, and I quote, "One of the main issues that has impeded progress to date is the inter-jurisdictional nature of the Bay, including the most complex region of jurisdictional overlap in the Arctic." As the Premier has mentioned, "This includes [the] governments of Nunavut, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec, several Federal Jurisdictions, 30 Cree and Inuit communities, and the overlapping land claims agreements and management board of Nunavut, Nunavik and the Eeyou Marine Regions," Eeyoo as in E-e-y-o-u, not EU as in European Union, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

Can the minister indicate if he has raised this issue during any of his recent meetings with the federal and provincial leaders? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not at this point. I have just seen the letter once the document was tabled and there are very good points in that. I'll certainly be discussing with the Nunavut MP on this, as the Hon. Minister Tootoo is also, of course, everybody knows that he's the Minister of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and he's involved with that federal department. I'll be talking to him about that. I am pleased that these letters have been copied to our transboundary coordinator and our transboundary advisor on this. Once we have established some communications on this with the federal minister, I'll certainly be talking more about this initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the objectives that is contained in the mandate letter that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans received from the Prime Minister is to, and I quote, "work with the provinces, territories, indigenous peoples and other stakeholders to better co-manage our three oceans."

Mr. Speaker, Hudson Bay is Canada's largest inland sea and I support the work being done by many residents in Sanikiluaq in this area.

Can the minister confirm that the Government of Nunavut supports a more active and engaged role by the federal government on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the question from the hon. member. Mr. Speaker, it's a directive letter from the Prime Minister to a minister responsible for a certain department. Of course, we will be looking at that and working with federal ministers.

Many departments are going to be involved in this, including the Kivalliq Inuit Association, Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and Grand Council of the Cree. There are many parties that are involved in this. Through good coordination, we will certainly get to a point where we can actually have our communities be a participant in discussing whatever the case may be that affects their daily living, whether it's environmental protection, environmental stewardship of the ocean, or being a participant in discussions on development. There are many things.

It does have an effect on the surrounding communities that the hon. member has indicated. There are many avenues. This government is going to be working with

the federal government to ensure that our communities in Nunavut are environmentally protected and are participants in any kind of discussion that may affect their livelihood from day to day, activities that may be out there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Tony Akoak. I'm sorry. He's not here. I will go to the next name. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. David Joanasi.

### **Question 282 – 4(3): Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action**

**Mr. Joanasi:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Justice.

As the minister is aware, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its final report on December 15, 2015. In volume 6 of this report, the commission made a total of 94 calls to action that were directed at a number of governments and organizations, including Canada's territorial governments.

Mr. Speaker, these calls to action were made in order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation. Calls to action were made in a number of areas, including child welfare, education, health, and justice.

Will the minister commit to providing a formal response to those calls to action that are related to justice and that have been addressed to the territorial government? 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. Joanasie for the question. Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut commends the hard work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and we support the federal government in their efforts to right the legacy of the residential schools.

I, myself, spent a bit of time in a residential school way back when, not during the really difficult years, but the time I spent there, I thought I had gone to jail, so it was a real eye-opener.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut has coordinated an interdepartmental review of the recommendations and calls to action to see what kind of areas the Government of Nunavut needs to improve on and what areas we are doing well to address some of the recommendations and calls to action. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Joanasie:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On January 21, 2016, the federal Department of Justice issued a news release with information on the most recent federal/provincial/territorial meeting of ministers of justice and public safety. This news release indicates that “Ministers discussed the issue of reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, informed by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action and agreed on the need to address related issues, such as First Nations Policing.”

Can the minister indicate what were the specific outcomes of these discussions? 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. Joanasie for the question. Unfortunately, I wasn’t at those meetings. I’ll have to get a briefing from my department to see what the discussions were with the former minister, and then I can report back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Joanasie:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My final question is, one of the Truth and Reconciliation’s calls to action is that the Federation of Law Societies of Canada “ensure that lawyers receive appropriate cultural competency training” that will “require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.”

Can the minister indicate if individuals that are hired to work in the Government of Nunavut’s legal services currently receive any cultural competency training and, if so, what specific training do the individuals receive? 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. Joanasie for the question. Of course, the lawyers that we

have in the Department of Justice, the legal and constitutional lawyers, do a lot of work for client departments in the Government of Nunavut. Our other lawyers, the legislative division lawyers, review legislation.

We do have people working in that department, an elder advisor, who works with the lawyers and I believe there is some orientation. We do want our lawyers and, in fact, all our employees to be sensitive to cultural and traditional issues in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 283 – 4(3): Nunavut Energy Management Program**

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning.

I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services in regard to his Minister's Statement. I was glad to hear the statement. I recall that in 2007, the previous minister, Levinia Brown, initiated the policy and I am thankful for that.

Now I would like to direct my question to the minister based on his reference to his wish to spread this program to other communities. This is specifically to lower power usage related to increasing costs to lights and fuel.

I would like to ask exactly which communities the minister is planning to implement these energy-efficiency measures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. We have not finalized in which communities we will be laying out this pilot project in, but if we go with the same thematic scheme, it would in communities where we own our own office buildings and where there is a potential for more savings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is becoming more obvious that we could reduce the costs of energy consumption and it would decrease the use of fossil fuel. When does the minister expect to table the plans and which communities will bear the benefits in Nunavut? 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. As this is a pilot project and we are still working on it, I can't commit to when any documents will be tabled, but I will look into it further. It's still a pilot project. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As this pilot project has proven to be quite

successful, I would like to see if we can spread it, as the minister committed to spreading it to other communities. If the minister can at least provide a schedule during the spring session explaining how we can spread this wonderful program to other communities, if the minister can commit to that, I would appreciate it. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I can't commit to that. We want to spread it to more because there are monies involved. There is an initial investment and through the savings, we get our investments back. There are financial dollars attached to it, but in the end, the monies are paid back through the savings we receive.

We will be rolling this out in other communities because we want to lower our greenhouse emissions and we want to save costs. This will be looked at once it's all completed. The goal is to roll it out in other communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 284 – 4(3): Joint  
Federal/Territorial Funding for  
Sports**

**Mr. Alexander Sammurtok**  
(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government

Services.

Last week on March 10, the minister, along with the federal Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, announced that “The Government of Canada and the Government of Nunavut have signed a bilateral agreement that will allow Nunavut to expand the scope of its projects and programs related to sport participation.”

The press release accompanying this announcement indicated that “The agreement provides a total federal contribution of up to \$1,006,900 to be matched by the Government of Nunavut over a period of four years.”

Can the minister indicate how his department will ensure that this funding is distributed throughout the territory? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. We will have no problem distributing these funds throughout Nunavut because it is not enough. The government will be spending even more than the matched share by the federal government that we receive.

We appreciate all the money that we get from the federal government. In fact, \$100,000 of this money will already be spent to help with the transportation costs that we have with the Arctic Winter Games that we co-hosted with Greenland. There will be no problems to make sure that this money is spent within the four-year timeframe within

Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister describe the process by which the schools or municipalities may apply to access this funding for local sports programs? 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. I don't know of the exact process, but this funding will be distributed through our Nunavut sports department. There are what I think are called rec. coordinators in every community. They can speak with Sport Nunavut, which is located in Baker Lake. It's not a vast amount of funds, so I would encourage people to look into it to try to get the funds. We will have no problem spending the funds that are allocated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Sammurtok**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On March 10, 2016, the press release indicates that the federal minister, and I quote, "also took the opportunity to highlight the Government of Canada's commitment to supporting construction of recreational infrastructure that will allow more Nunavummiut to be active for life."

Can the minister clarify if this funding will be used to retrofit buildings in Nunavut to improve their accessibility? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't comment on what the federal Minister of Sport meant in her comment, but the funds that will be used to renovate buildings and arenas are in a different form of funding with the Small Communities Fund.

These funds will be used mostly to give Nunavummiut access to sporting events. We're talking more about children so that they learn to be fit and if they want to play sports. There is a saying that for every dollar you spend to get someone fit and in physical shape it will save you five dollars in the health bill. This is a program to encourage and also to make accessible more sporting events and more activities for the younger people of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 285 – 4(3): Search and Rescue**

**Mr. Akoak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for not being here when you first called me. I had to get something from the *Hansard*.

Mr. Speaker, good morning to the people of Gjoa Haven, Nunavummiut, and fellow MLAs.

My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I spoke in the Legislative Assembly about the importance of supporting search and rescue organizations.

I want to clearly state that I applaud our new minister for his willingness to make changes to his department's policies and I also applaud him for his willingness to clearly explain these changes to the listening public.

In the statement which I made earlier this month, I suggested that the time is right for the minister to convene a search and rescue summit in Nunavut, which would bring together federal, territorial, and local representatives to address issues of concern. Can the minister indicate if he will follow this advice? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for bringing up a very important topic. I'm willing to take any advice and look at any suggestions in any subject. As a government, we should be open and willing to look at any ideas that might help the people of Nunavut. I'm not committing to having a summit on it, but I'm open to listening to ideas and to look at what the member would want. I'm free and willing for him to come and see me in my office any time to discuss this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister for his answer. Mr. Speaker, it has been reported in the news that there will be an expansion of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary's presence in Nunavut and the north. I anticipate that the minister has discussed this issue with his federal counterpart, who is no stranger to this House. Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate how the Government of Nunavut will be working with Coast Guard on this initiative? 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. The member is right. We have been having discussions and the Coast Guard, which is in charge of search and rescue for marine, has committed to \$500,000 annual funding for the new Arctic region, which includes Nunavut and Nunavik. This is funding to train search and rescue workers in that field. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to briefly revisit the issue of developing emergency plans. Can the minister update us on when the Territorial Emergency Plan will be ready for tabling in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the member is referring to the Emergency Management Annual Report Plan, I plan to table it today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 286 – 4(3): Baker Lake Housing Authority**

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hello to the people of Baker Lake and all Nunavummiut.

My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

As the minister will recall, he wrote to me on December 7, 2015 concerning appointments to the Baker Lake Housing Authority. At that time, he indicated that an election would be held in the community in early January of 2016. He also indicated that, and I quote, “the individuals who receive the top [number of] votes will then be forwarded on to me for recommended appointment to the Authority.”

Mr. Speaker, these names have not yet been published in the *Nunavut Gazette*.

For the public record, can the minister confirm who he has appointed to serve on Baker Lake’s housing authority? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. George Hickers.

**Hon. George Hickers:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for bringing up this question. This has been a bit of an arduous task. We have put out a number of calls for nominations in the community over the past few months. Our intent was to have the election to be held in early January. Unfortunately, we didn’t get enough nominations at that time to move forward with the election process for me to vet through the people with the most votes.

I am happy to announce that we had six names put forward very recently when we attempted to have the election last week. Unfortunately, due to the tax season, we had some difficulty finding a venue, but I am pleased to inform the member that the election will happen in Baker Lake at the arena on March 24. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week, the minister agreed with my colleague from Gjoa Haven that it is important for local housing authorities to encourage residents to make their housing needs clearly known to their local housing authority.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation’s most recent annual report indicates that a total of 14 homeownership program applications were approved in Baker Lake during the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Can the minister indicate how the Nunavut Housing Corporation will be working with Baker Lake’s local housing authority to publicize and explain the corporation’s



homeownership programs to residents of the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Hickes.

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I applaud the member for bringing forward this important issue of having people put forward their names to the needs list so that we can accurately measure the needs of housing across this territory and in his own home community of Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, when I was in Baker Lake a couple of months ago, I met with Mr. Joedee, who is the Chair of the Baker Lake Housing Authority, along with the board members and the member himself. I was stressing the fact that we need to engage the local people in the decision-making power to move forward in recognizing the actual need.

With the centralization of the homeownership programs to our headquarter office in Arviat, we have streamlined the application process and are looking at identifying different communication methods to make sure that all the information is available to Nunavummiut.

I recognize that not everyone has access to Internet. We are looking at having local information methods being explored, but I do want to assure the member that the information he's looking for is on the website. We are exploring different methods to get that information out to all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Housing Corporation's most recent annual report indicates that there has been an improvement in the rate of public housing rent collection in the community in recent years. Can the minister describe what specific initiatives the Nunavut Housing Corporation has introduced to help local housing authorities and organizations to improve rent collection rates? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Hickes.

**Hon. George Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I applaud the member for bringing forward this very important issue. LHOs are funded based on the amount of rents that they collect. It can put hardships on them if there are challenges within the community regarding collection of public housing rents.

That being said, moving forward, as we have in the past, I'm going to say approximately two years, we have created a collection division within the Nunavut Housing Corporation that works on a daily basis with local housing organizations throughout the territory to assist them with their collection methods, information sharing, and best practices.

As well, we have undertaken a couple of different programs within NHC itself.

Like I mentioned during my Committee of the Whole appearance, there have been some advances in looking at garnishments and CRA communications. We have outsourced some of our harder-to-collect clients to an outside source with some limited results.

Going forward, we do continue to work with the LHOs to assist them in whatever means necessary that we can help them to increase their collection percentages and numbers. Most communities have shown some dramatic increases in the last couple of years since this collection division has been created, and I applaud the work they are doing with the LHOs in establishing clear collection methods and the success that it has shown to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 287 – 4(3): Supporting Our Elders**

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture and Heritage.

Mr. Speaker, as a preamble, I am very proud of our elders and I would like to make it clear that I am in full support of them participating fully in the development of our government's policies and practices.

If we truly want to respect *Inuit Qaujimagangit*, then we must ask those

who know it best to guide us. However, it is important that when we invite elders to participate in conferences and working groups and share their expertise with us, we accord them the utmost respect and attention.

Let me first ask the minister: can you clearly explain what support and assistance is provided to our elders when they are invited and flown in to contribute to conferences and other such events? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The Acting Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Johnny Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. Yes, elders today are travelling to other places outside of their communities, especially when there are gatherings discussing culture. They have to be properly cared for if their travelling on behalf of the Department of Culture and Heritage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think my question was really responded to. Maybe I'll try again.

Mr. Speaker, I was recently approached by a constituent who was shocked to come across a group of elders who had been invited to a Government of Nunavut conference in Iqaluit but had been left stranded at a local hotel. They had apparently tried to leave, but due to bad weather, they had to turn back and they had no idea what to do next. They

were unable to communicate with the staff and they had no means to get a meal. I would like to thank my constituent for taking care of them.

I want to ask the minister: how can our elders we hold so highly be expected to travel and participate in conferences when they do not receive adequate care and support during their travel? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Acting Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for informing me about that. I can look into that to see what actually happened.

As I stated earlier, the elders must be properly taken care of by the Department of Culture and Heritage when they're travelling on our behalf, not just elders but anybody, including youth. I can check into this to see why that happened. I thank Member Enook for asking this question and telling me that this happened. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, thanks to the interventions of passers-by, this group of stranded elders were finally taken care of. However, this kind of situation must never happen again. We call them our foundation and we can't even take proper care of them when they are travelling.

Mr. Speaker, will the minister commit to ensuring that the elders have someone with them making sure that they are safe and in good hands? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The Acting Minister of Culture and Heritage, Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into it to see why this happened. I have no idea right now, but I will get my staff to look into this to see why that happened because it's not supposed to happen. I will advise my staff to check into this. It is very unfortunate news and if somebody did something that they're not supposed to do, I will look into it and take care of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. Let us proceed. Item 7. Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

**Tabled Document 109 – 4(3):  
Response to Standing Committee  
OGOPA's Report on the Review of  
the 2014-2015 Annual Report of  
the Information and Privacy  
Commissioner**

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the

Response to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts' Report on the Review of the 2014-15 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Hon. Minister of Family Services, Mr. Mike.

**Tabled Document 110 – 4(3): FPT Forum of Labour Market Ministers' Meeting in Toronto, Ontario November 20 and 21, 2014**

**Tabled Document 111 – 4(3): FPT Forum of Labour Market Ministers' Meeting, Quebec, July 7 and 8, 2015**

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table in the House the FPT Forum of Labour Market Ministers' Meeting in Toronto, Ontario from November 20 to 21, 2014, and I am pleased to table the FPT Forum of Labour Market Ministers' Meeting in Quebec, July 7 and 8, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 112 – 4(3): Nunavut Emergency Management Annual Report 2014-2015**

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Nunavut Emergency Management

Annual Report for 2014-15. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

**Tabled Document 113 – 4(3): Nunavummit Kiglisiniartiit's Annual Report 2013-2014**

**Tabled Document 114 – 4(3): Nunavummit Kiglisiniartiit's Annual Report 2014-2015**

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the following annuals reports:

Nunavummit Kiglisiniartiit's annual report for April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 and the annual report for April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents.

(interpretation ends) I wish to correct an error made yesterday in the tabling of document I made yesterday. The title of the first document I read, "TD 106 – 4(3)," was incorrect. The document was read as the Annual Report of Members' Indemnities, Expenses, Benefits, and Allowances for the Period July to September 2015 when, in fact, the title should have been read as, "Record of Members Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses for the Period July to September 2015." The table apologizes for this error.

Item 14. Notices of Motions.  
(interpretation) Member for South Baffin, Mr. David Joanasié.

**Item 14: Notices of Motions**

**Motion 024 – 4(3): Appointments to Standing Committee – Notice**

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, March 17, 2016, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Uqummiut, that the Member for Netsilik be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation, a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, and a member of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness.

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

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. The Hon. Member for South Baffin, Mr. David Joanasié.

**Item 16: Motions**

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Motion 024 – 4(3): Appointments to Standing Committee**

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

WHEREAS section 17 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly may establish such committees to aid and advise it as it considers necessary;

AND WHEREAS the Member for Netsilik has taken office;

AND WHEREAS vacancies have arisen on a number of standing committees;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Uqummiut, that the Member for Netsilik be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation, a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, and a member of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation, a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, and a member of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Member for Gjoa Haven be appointed an alternate member of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. [Consideration in] Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 10, 11, 12, 13, and 15 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 with the Committee of the Whole, we will break for lunch and report back at 1:30.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 11:31 and Committee resumed at 13:30

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

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

(interpretation ends) 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, 13, and 15 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, and good afternoon. We wish to continue with the review of the 2016-17 Main Estimates of the Department of Culture and Heritage, followed by the Department of Justice, the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, and the Department of Environment. If time permits, we will commence the review of Bill 10, Bill 11, Bill 12, and Bill 15. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Are we in agreement that we continue with the main estimates for the Department of Culture and Heritage?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 – Culture and Heritage – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Is the committee agreed that Minister Mike's staff go to the witness table.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) Minister Mike, please introduce your staff for the record. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have the

Acting Deputy Minister, Stéphane Cloutier, and Director of Corporate Services, Regilee Adla. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Turn to page F-5. Official Languages. Branch Summary. Culture and Heritage. Official Languages. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$10,871,000. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Minister. I believe you have a translation bureau in your department for Inuktitut and I'm sure it's for other languages too. I would first of all like to ask how many staff members you have there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Acting Deputy Minister, Stéphane Cloutier, will respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Under the Translation Bureau, we have 25 employees located in three different offices: Igloolik, Iqaluit, and Kugluktuk. We have about eight employees under the Translation Bureau in Kugluktuk to work with respecting Inuinnaqtun; in Igloolik, we have six translators for Inuktitut; and in the Iqaluit office, we have about, I think, 11 employees. That includes translators but also support staff. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are quite a few employees and you provide services to the government offices and departments. Do you feel there is an adequate number of interpreters or do you need additional support with translators outside of the ones you currently have? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now, it is adequate, but (interpretation ends) over time, if I can compare with one fiscal year to the next one, from 2013-14 and 2014-15, just to give you an example, the demand for translation services from departments and public agencies has increased.

As an example, in 2013-14, we processed roughly around 4.3 million words. That means requests from English to either Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, and French all combined. The following fiscal year, there was an increase of about nearly one million more words. It went to 5.2 million words that we processed last year. For this year, we don't have the final stats, but we do get increased demands for translation services.

This is the first year that all our translator positions are fully staffed and, hopefully, this will improve how we deliver services to departments and public agencies and be able to meet their translations needs more effectively. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also in the 2016-19 business plan, you indicate that “The Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit is now integrated as a service provider under Culture and Heritage’s Translation Project Management System.” Can you explain what this system involves? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, (interpretation ends) we implemented our translation management system. It is a computer software program that we implemented as of 2012. This is to help coordinate and manage all the translation requests that we receive from departments and public agencies and then for us to actually dispatch the requests to service providers, translators, reviewers, or terminologists.

As of this year, we included the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit as a

service provider. When we get requests from departments or public agencies for terminology, either a name of a program, job title, or a slogan, we can actually dispatch the request directly to Taiguusiliuqtiit to provide assistance to our Translation Bureau and also GN departments. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. In your department’s Translation Bureau, do you maintain a list of certified interpreter/translators? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will elaborate further on that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, (interpretation ends) with respect to all the translators we hire, we ensure they are qualified and certified. At the interview process, we administer a written test and the written test is evaluated to ensure that they use proper spelling, proper terminology, and so on. That’s part of the hiring process. All of our translators go through that test. Also, it’s either a requirement that they have the education, the training, or a number of years in experience in the field of translation.

With respect to freelancers that we sometimes use, it’s also a requirement



that they are certified or qualified or have a certain number of years of experience in that field and the work that is being produced is also being reviewed on a regular basis.

With respect to the certification process, I believe the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit has a priority to develop an assessment tool to assess the level of proficiency of either GN employees, but I think they are going to work down the road. I don't know if it's for next year or the following year, but they have in their plans as a priority to also do assessments of translators and interpreters to ensure that they are using the highest quality of Inuktitut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. For example, if I want to work for you tomorrow as an interpreter/translator, what do you use as your foundation to determine if I am qualified, such as "Joe Enook is not qualified to be an interpreter/translator"? What do you base the qualifications on? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I was almost laughing.

>> *Laughter*

My Deputy Minister, Mr. Cloutier, will respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) When we first put a job ad out, a requirement is to have a post-secondary diploma in translation or a related field. We usually look at ensuring that they are certified or trained. If you do not have the training or the education, we look at the equivalency. In terms of equivalency, in some of the job ads we had out, it would be two or three years of experience in translation. If you do have experience in translation as a freelancer or in your professional career, then we consider that as well. Part of the hiring process also involves a written test. That is part of the hiring process. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the assessment tools for written assessments, either in Inuktitut or English, if I wanted to get a job, who would look after the written assessment? Would you be looking at the tests or would it be the deputy minister? Who would do that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) For every position that is open for

competition, we have a panel with members. There's always a member from the Department of Finance with staffing consultants, but we also have panel members from the department.

In the case of a translator position, we usually have translators and most often, it is the senior translator. We have three senior translators working for the department, one here in Iqaluit, one in Kugluktuk as well as in Igloolik. We also have managers for the Translation Bureau. Usually, they are part of the panel members and they would be the ones doing the review of the written assessment and evaluate. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again in the draft 2016-19 business plan, your department indicates that one of its priorities for the 2016-17 fiscal year is to "Support the provision of quality translation services in French and Inuktitut, through the development and establishment of an effective quality controlled process." Can you explain what this effective quality control process means? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I will refer this question to my Deputy Minister, Mr. Cloutier.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you for your question, a very good one. Until recently, we did not have positions dedicated to editing and reviewing. In the last few months, we have filled those positions. We have one for Inuinnaqtun in Kugluktuk as well as one here in Iqaluit for Inuktitut. These are new positions.

What we're planning to do throughout this fiscal year is to establish a clear process for editing and reviewing the work of translators in terms of guidelines or a checklist for the editor/reviewers to ensure that proper names of departments are used, the proper terminology is used, proper spellings, doing an ongoing review of spelling in the translation work, place names, personal names, a proper use of grammar, and so on. This is what we intend to do.

These are new positions and we are going to provide support to those editor/reviewers to ensure that they follow a clear process for their editing and reviewing work. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is going to be my last question. You know, Mr. Minister, that I'm very protective of the Inuit language. I may not be as proficient as I should be, but it is something that I feel very protective of and it should be used properly, as I try to do myself.

I have a question regarding the papers, not the bible, but government documents like these, for example. Are these

documents translated into Inuktitut by your department? Let me ask that first. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I will refer this question to Mr. Cloutier. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We have translated the business plan since 1999. We translate those documents on a yearly basis.

I must admit that in the last few years, we had shorter timelines to produce the business plan in Inuktitut. Part of our priority for the upcoming business year is to do a thorough review of the Inuktitut translation of the business plan, and also work in collaboration with the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit to ensure that proper and correct terminology is used throughout the business plan.

Part of our translation management system allows us to input pre-approved or pre-defined terminology in our system that will indicate or signal to our translators that this is the preferred terminology to be used for that particular translation. This is something that we have as a priority.

We do translate the business plan, but part of our priorities is to also do a thorough review in the upcoming month. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): This might not be a question, but I would like to urge the minister and, as Chair of the Committee of the Whole, it is something that I have said repeatedly and I will say it again.

On more than one occasion as the Chairman, I have said, "I am just reading and if it's wrong, it's not my fault," because I see a lot of errors in the business plan. On more than one occasion, I say, "Don't blame me because I am just reading what's written here." For example, if I am a unilingual Inuk and can't read English, sometimes what I read here is very wrong.

Why is it that the translations are not edited or proofread before they put out the publication? Maybe you're not given enough time to do it properly and you can't have them proofread. I see a lot of errors in the business plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the Department of Culture and Heritage will make sure that they're done properly. We have already indicated that we do not have proofreaders and quality control. There are three main official languages here in Nunavut and when these translations are done in Inuktitut especially, I will make sure that quality control is exercised. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. Yes, it's good to hear that you will exercise your authority.

I haven't been a Member of the Legislative Assembly for very long, but every year, I have seen the errors and I repeatedly say that these should be corrected. Sometimes it seems like they are written in First Nations syllabics. We have noticed that as members here. It looks like First Nations syllabics sometimes because the translations don't make any sense.

I'm not talking about simple errors. Sometimes there are sentences that don't make any sense at all, but I am very pleased that quality control is going to be exercised. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): I didn't hear a question. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): As I indicated earlier, we will make sure that they are proofread. I agree with you because it seems like that has been an ongoing concern. I have been the minister for a very short time for this department, but I will make sure that my colleague's concern is addressed. Thank you.

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

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

With regard to official languages, I would first like to ask if there are enough interpreter/translators. Have you done an assessment to see if you have enough interpreter/translators or do you think you require additional staff in that department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to thank my colleague for welcoming us. I would like to refer this question to Mr. Cloutier.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We currently have 25 employees under the Translation Bureau. This is the first year that we are fully staffed. Last year and a couple of years before, it was a struggle, especially due to a lack of office space or housing. We are very proud this year that we are fully staffed in terms of our translator positions.

I think we are good with respect to Inuktitut. For French, we only have two translators and we use external resources as well. I think, at some point, this is an area that we will need to look at to see if we can increase capacity. With respect to Inuinnaqtun, we have slightly less translators than for Inuktitut, but we try to work with the Kitikmeot region and the stakeholders to identify priorities or translations that are relevant for the Inuinnaqtun-speaking communities. At some point, I think we will need to look at increasing capacity in that area, especially for Inuinnaqtun in the future.

For now, we pretty much have all the staff. We are also going to implement a different process for editing and reviewing, as well as continue training for our translators in different areas, including the use of ICI, the dual standardized writing system, but also ongoing training in different translation tools that we use at the Translation Bureau. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank him for his response. When using freelancers and other resources outside of the government, do you monitor that? With the *Inuit Language Protection Act* and the requirement to have translators, does your department conduct assessments of their work right now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) With respect to the use of freelancers, we have a standing offer agreement. We follow the CGS process for awarding contracts. There was a call for proposals for vendors to provide translation services to be added to a standing offer agreement that our department can use as well as other GN departments.

Part of the selection process for awarding a vendor to be on the standing offer agreement is that they must submit a portfolio, resumé, and a demonstration of their experience, so if they have a diploma or certificate in translation or their years of experience in the translation field. Once we have a list of vendors on the standing offer agreement, this is on an as-needed basis. It is not a guarantee of work, but they can be used as needed.

When we do use their freelancer services and we receive their translation back, if we identify issues with some translations, we usually communicate to the freelancers or to the vendor our concerns about the quality of the translation. If we are not satisfied with the ongoing work of that particular vendor, then we simply do not award any more work to that vendor. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can he state how many freelancers are under the standing offer agreement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will elaborate on that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I don't have the list of vendors on the standing agreement in front of me, but I was passed a note here. With respect to Inuinnaqtun, we have a couple of vendors on the list. With Inuktitut, we have five vendors. With respect to French, we have four as well. This is all reserved without having the full list in front of me. The standing offer agreement is available on the procurement website managed by CGS. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving on, in your business plan on page 72, Inuktitut Affairs, can they indicate how many employees are under that division? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Yes, there are six employees. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Which communities do they work in? Is it only in Iqaluit or are they in the regions? I hope that is understandable. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Adla will respond to my colleague's question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now, even though there are six positions, three positions are filled, two in Iqaluit and one in Kugluktuk. The three vacant positions would be in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why aren't the three positions filled? I'm sure there are a large number of translators. If he can respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Actually, I am pleased to report that interviews are currently going on for two positions here in Iqaluit. The reason why it took so long to advertise the positions is we requested housing, but housing has been allocated. The competition went out and now we are going through the interview process. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you. Under the other item on page 72, Community Inuit Language Initiatives, can you use an example as to how you provide grants and contributions? Are there language committees in the communities? Can you provide information on how you provide support under that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The Department of Culture and Heritage administers the *Grants and Contributions Policy*. Every year, we do a call for proposals for all programs under the Department of Culture and Heritage, but the projects that we usually fund under Official Languages are with respect to support. Some of the projects include creating reading materials, resources, books, apps for iPads, tablets, iPhones, and so on.

Other projects will be, let's say, we will get requests from some communities to do workshops with elders and youth to pass on the traditional terminology to the younger generation. We have a few of these projects that we fund under our grants and contributions.

We also support media initiatives, either on television, iPads, or interactive

media, projects that will really engage youth.

Some of the very important projects that are also funded under our grants and contributions programs are with respect to the preservation or revitalization of some dialects that are maybe more at risk, especially in the western part of Nunavut, particularly in the Kitikmeot region. We're talking about Inuinnaqtun but also projects to support and preserve Nattilingmiutut.

These are some of the projects that are undertaken by community groups or individuals or municipalities, depending on who applies for the funds, to support and promote language use, to revitalize the use of the language in the communities, but also involving elders, youth, and everyone usually in the communities. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the entire \$563,000 for grants and contributions or are there staff under that too? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) For part of the \$563,000, there is

\$113,000 that is in grants. We support projects up to \$15,000. That mostly includes projects like workshops, community workshops with elders and youth, and those type of projects and projects that will promote the use of Inuktitut/Inuinnaqtun at the community level. Then there is \$450,000 that is in contributions. This is under this business plan, Vote 1 dollars.

We also receive funds from Canada under the *Canada-Nunavut General Agreement on the Promotion of French and Inuit Languages*. Added to that number, there's \$1.1 million that also goes to grants and contributions to support, as I mentioned earlier, all these community projects to support the use of Inuktitut or Inuinnaqtun. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. If I heard you correctly, I think you meant to say \$113,000 in grants. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) You are correct. It's \$113,000 in grants.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank him for the response. Lastly, I just want you to elaborate for the listening audience and anyone who might want to find more information on the *Uqausivut Plan* for the use of Inuktitut within government operations.

In your business plan under priorities for 2015-16, you indicate that "The department coordinated and monitored the implementation of the *Uqausivut* priorities by GN departments and public

agencies." It also states that the minister's annual reports were tabled.

What is the status of that today? If you could just summarize the government departments' operations. Where are they now with respect to implementing the *Uqausivut Plan*? Are you able to summarize that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. When we dealt with that yesterday, Ms. Angnakak asked the minister about that issue, but Mr. Joanasié didn't have an opportunity, so if the minister wishes to respond, Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Yes, language is a serious issue and it has been decided to enforce the *Official Languages Act* and *Inuit Language Protection Act*. They were rarely enforced in the past and now we are trying to enforce them more. We have been able to move forward on that a little bit. I'll get Mr. Cloutier to elaborate on how that has been done to date. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) For the implementation activities by departments and the results they are achieving, we do ongoing monitoring and collection of data on the results they are achieving and implementing in their different projects, either with respect to the delivery of French services and French programs. We collect detailed information on a number of things that they actually do, if it's either the volume



of translation, the amount of words that are being translated and processed, the number of documents, the number of requests, and that type of data.

With respect to Inuktitut under the Inuit Language Implementation Fund, we also collect detailed information from departments and public agencies on what results they are achieving, either the number of resources they are creating, the number of GN employees that are being trained, or the number of college students that are receiving language training or participating in language revitalization courses, how many municipalities are being supported, the level of compliance, the level of things they would do on the business side, and so on.

We are collecting that information and that will be part of the minister's progress report. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question under Official Languages. My colleague, Mr. Joanasie, kind of touched on it.

There is a budget set aside for the Official Languages Division. How is this budget divvied up between our official languages of Inuktitut, French, English, and Inuinnaqtun or even for another language? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Cloutier respond to the question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If I understand correctly, and correct me if I'm wrong, I think the member is referring to the grants and contributions funding we have available for communities. What is listed in our business plan is exclusively for the Inuit language.

Any money that would go toward French is under a separate agreement with the federal government. It's the Government of Canada that provides the funds to the Government of Nunavut to support those projects at the community level.

What we have in our business plan at Culture and Heritage, grants and contributions, is exclusively for the Inuit language. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I want to understand this issue clearly and that's why I'm asking about it. We do not want the Inuit language lost or forgotten because it is our original language.

With respect to (interpretation ends) the French (interpretation) language, our dialect doesn't have a word for it, so I am unable to say it in Inuktitut. I am not criticizing any language, be it English or French or Inuktitut, but I want it clearly

understood that Inuktitut is our mother tongue and is our original language as northern people.

When speaking about languages foreign to Inuit and their usage as languages of instruction, our language was taught at the lowest grades. If we tie it into the way the funds are allocated, I believe a stronger emphasis on Inuktitut would emerge. At least that is my perception. This is why I am asking about this issue.

Let me move on to a different topic. My initial preamble was not really associated with a question, so I am fine if a response is not provided to that. However, I do have a question related to this. Perhaps I will explain it in English and if you don't want to respond to it, it's okay. I will ask this question because I have not heard it before.

(interpretation ends) A number of your department's policies, including its *Grants and Contributions Policy* and its *Translation Policy*, have expired. When will these policies be updated and made available to the public? Thank you, Mr. Speaker...Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I'm Mr. Chairman. I almost got a promotion. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you for the question. We are working on a comprehensive policy with

respect to communications in the official languages. This is going to an internal review, which also includes a revised policy on translation services. Once the final review is completed and the policy is approved, it will be made available to the public. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you. My apologies, I almost promoted you to Speaker. I made a mistake.

I will ask this next question in English. (interpretation ends) In your August 31, 2015 correspondence to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, you provided an updated copy of the terms of reference for the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit. Will you be committed to tabling the updated terms of reference for the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit during the 2016 winter sitting? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Cloutier to respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As a result of the report from the standing committee, there will be a response that will be forwarded back to the standing committee in due course,

which will also include the updated terms of reference for the Inuit Qaujimagatunqangit Katimajit. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Following the list of names, Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for recognizing me again. I had forgotten to ask a question.

In your opening remarks from yesterday and looking at the *Blues* on page 63, at the bottom, you reported that you work with the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit “to improve Nunavummiut’s language skills and enjoyment of Inuktitut literature in an oral format through a computer text-to-speech program based on Greenland’s model.” You also said that “We will continue to strengthen our partnerships with the Government of Greenland...” It looks like there will be an exchange program with students from here and Greenland, according to your opening remarks.

Can you tell us what the text-to-speech program would be used for? If this question has not been asked previously, I am asking it now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, we have to progress with proper terminology. Following the progression of technology, we know that computers can read out loud in English. When we want to find out how to say a word, we can just go on the computer

and see how to say it and what it means. We know how useful that is. Because of that, we feel it can improve things, especially in the Inuit languages. We are trying to see how it can be made more available to the public and how it can be adapted to fit. That’s why we are working with the Government of Greenland to do this. They have already gone through it, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Can you also elaborate a bit further? On page 64, it states in English, (interpretation ends) “development and delivery of an exchange program with Inuit students.” (interpretation) Can you explain what grades would be involved in the exchange program or if it would be for college students? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. You mentioned the page number and explained where it is. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you to my colleague for asking for an explanation of that. Mr. Cloutier will provide the explanation. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Last September, there was a meeting between senior officials from the Government of Nunavut’s Department of Culture and Heritage as well as the Department of Culture in Greenland to review different options for potential

collaboration between our two jurisdictions.

We also visited different organizations, including the National School of Theatre of Greenland. The National School of Theatre of Greenland is a professional training program. It's a two-year program where they train Inuit Greenlandic in acting, either to do plays, for television, also for the media to be good communicators.

What is very interesting with that particular program is that they have different objectives or different principles and the first objective of their program is to improve the quality of Greenlandic used by the actors. The actors are role models in society because they are in front of the public and they are in the media. This is one of their core objectives. Their prime objective is to really improve the quality of language used by the actors.

The second one is to ensure that all the training provided is done in a way that is rooted in Greenlandic culture and society in their own values, not from outside of Greenland but within Greenland. There are a number of things, including teaching drama techniques and so on, but it was very interesting to hear that their program really focuses on core, similar objectives that we have in Nunavut, language, culture, and so on.

The current program in Greenland has five students. It's a very intensive program, but they are open and they sent the invitation. They are very open to welcome Inuit students from other circumpolar regions. Since we were there, we identified it as a priority to explore the potential possibility of

working with our partners in Nunavut to try to identify what the possibilities and opportunities are to maybe encourage two of our students from Nunavut so that they can attend that program.  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for explaining that. Mr. Chairman, thank you for pointing out that I indicated the page number.

The final question that I was planning to ask is the Department of Culture and Heritage is responsible for languages and they have different grants and contributions programs. Some of them are just grants. Some of them are contributions.

As I stated earlier, maybe if I say it this way, there is the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit. If I can ask, do the communities have language committees? Do you know of any of them and, if so, how many are there and how do you support them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question.

**Chairman**: Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I really thank the member for the

question. Language revitalization, language use, and language promotion sometimes need to be grassroots. It needs to start at home at the community level and it's very important to have grassroots support, community support for those initiatives.

Under our G&C Policy, communities that want to establish a committee want to get together to identify what their needs are and what their objectives and goals should be, we provide support through our G&C Policy. We provided support in the past to Sanikiluaq, where they wanted to get a group of elders, teachers, and members of the community to document that unique dialect in Nunavut. We provided support in the past. They have done the same with Kangiqtuqaapik (Clyde River).

In the last few years, we have been working very actively with the stakeholders in the Kitikmeot region to create a grassroots movement toward the promotion and revitalization of Inuinaqtun as well as Nattilingmiutut. There are key stakeholders in the Kitikmeot region that have led this work and next week they are doing a big workshop in Iqaluktuuttiaq (Cambridge Bay) where they are bringing community representatives from every community to Iqaluktuuttiaq to provide mentorship and also provide training on how to establish that kind of work at the community level.

They have been working on trying to establish community groups or language committees at the grassroots level so that the communities can empower themselves to identify their own needs, but also their own goals and objectives

to lead that work. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for acknowledging me again. I had a question in mind, but I forgot to ask about it earlier. I don't know the issue and though my colleagues may already understand it, I will ask about this anyway so that I can have a very clear understanding of this issue.

With respect to the Inuktitut (interpretation ends) dictionary (interpretation) initiative, is that under development or is this just the initial discussion? What is the position of the department on this idea? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That would be a good question for the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit, the public body established at arm's length from the government under the *Inuit Language Protection Act*. They have the mandate and they have the duty to create, maintain, and promote the database of all the terminology that they collect and develop.

Taiguusiliuqtiit has been doing some work with different communities to do that kind of work. For instance, they have been working with some stakeholders in the Kitikmeot region to support the documentation of Nattilingmiutut. They're also doing other projects on traditional terminology with respect to traditional domains like qammaq, iglu, qulliq, qamutik, and also other areas like about siku, snow, ice, and this is ongoing work of Taiguusiliuqtiit. That public body has the legislated mandate to document, preserve, and promote traditional terminology but also local dialects. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When would I be able to get my hands on an actual copy of this dictionary in print? Thank you and that will be my last question.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): He indicated earlier that IUT is responsible for that, but Mr. Cloutier, if you would like to respond. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Taiguusiliuqtiit has already published some resources. I believe one is about the qamutik, another one about iglu. In the future, from what I can gather from

our collaboration with Taiguusiliuqtiit, they also have in the works publishing books about other traditional topics. This is an ongoing priority of Taiguusiliuqtiit to support the publishing of resources and glossaries and they are working actively on the database that will be made available to the public. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Qirngnuq. He indicated that he's done. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Culture and Heritage. Official Languages. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$10,871,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Turn to page F-6. (interpretation ends) Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Heritage. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me just ask for clarification. In the minister's opening comments, it states here on page 2, you recently signed a memorandum of understanding with the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

If I understand it correctly, this is a five-year agreement. Let me ask this question about what is written here. Can you confirm if your department is responsible for providing the \$500,000 contribution to this initiative? It looks like you will be providing \$500,000 for one year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's exactly what it means. It is a one-year agreement with the Winnipeg Art Gallery. This memorandum of understanding between Manitoba and Nunavut is for cooperation and development. We have an agreement and we want to work together to deal with these issues.

Mr. Cloutier can elaborate further on the funding side. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The member is correct, it's a five-year agreement. On the part of Nunavut, it would be \$500,000 in total. I must say it's a co-share cost. The costs are co-shared by the Government of Manitoba as well as the Government of Nunavut. The part that Nunavut is contributing is \$100,000 annually over a period of five years; therefore, \$500,000. The Government of Manitoba is also under a separate agreement directly with the Winnipeg Art Gallery and is also contributing \$100,000 to help with the creation and storage of the Nunavut art collection in Winnipeg. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the end of the memorandum of understanding, you will pay \$500,000 in total. Do I understand that correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Yes, you understood correctly. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the Canadian Museum of History, do we have any artefacts currently stored there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have been told that no, there are no artefacts stored there. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. There are artefacts stored in Winnipeg. Where else do we have artefacts stored? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): We spoke to the ones that are in Winnipeg. Mr. Cloutier will elaborate further to that on culture and heritage. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The Inuit art collection that we had in Yellowknife at the Prince of Wales [Northern Heritage Centre] were transferred to Winnipeg, as the member

pointed out. We still do have artefacts, archives, and other collections at the museum of Prince of Wales in Yellowknife. That is one location. Some of the other archaeological artefacts and palaeontological artefacts/items are also held at the Museum of Nature in Ottawa. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. Since we're paying \$100,000 per year for this agreement with the Winnipeg gallery, do we have the right to make suggestions as to what they can store in that building or is it at their discretion to spend it any way they want? Do we have rights as to how the artefacts are displayed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a very good question and I'll have Mr. Cloutier respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The \$100,000 under the agreement covers the storage space at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, but also for enhanced documentation and curation of the art collection over the next five years. That also includes training and education, providing training to Nunavummiut in the way of properly curating that kind of collection, and in developing exhibit programs in Winnipeg, Canada, and

across the world, including travelling exhibits within Nunavut. That is what that agreement entails. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like further clarity. We are going to give them an opportunity to train Inuit about artefacts. How will they go about doing that? Where will the trainees come from and how will they be selected to be sent down to Winnipeg for training? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond to the question.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) This will be about training, giving opportunities to Inuit students or interested Inuit from Nunavut in the creation of Inuit art. When we talk about artefacts, the archaeological and palaeontological artefacts, these are stored in other locations.

What we have in Winnipeg is the Inuit art collection that was held in Yellowknife. Now 7,000 pieces of Inuit art is moved to Winnipeg. That would provide opportunities to Nunavummiut to get further training in the creation, documentation, and preparing exhibits on Inuit art. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. That's why I'm asking: who will be sent down for training and what is the selection process? Do you utilize the schools? How would interested students be selected and how long would they stay down for training? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question.

**Chairman**: Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) There is not a process yet established. This is what we have in the plan because it's a new initiative, but the process will be established to plan those details; the selection process of the students and individuals that will go down there and how long they will go down there. I don't have any further information at this time, but I'm sure that when the process is well established, it will be communicated to the members. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will probably be my last question depending on the response I get. Mr. Minister, the people of Nunavut look forward to new initiatives and services. We would like to repatriate all

those types of things in Nunavut. There are a lot of services and programs that are being provided from outside of Nunavut and we keep saying that we want to repatriate everything, especially services.

We also say that we should also repatriate all the artefacts that came from Nunavut. Do you have any plans to repatriate the artefacts? The reason why I'm asking this is you have an agreement with Manitoba to have a travelling exhibit of Inuit artefacts very likely because they are not going to be repatriated to Nunavut. They will be going outside of Canada and travelling internationally.

Would you consider repatriating our artefacts or do you have any plans in place to repatriate them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Since I took over the portfolio of Culture and Heritage and with the previous government, building a heritage centre has been brought up. It has been deferred repeatedly. I'm talking about a heritage centre.

Again, I will refer this to Mr. Cloutier on the exhibits in Yellowknife being brought to Winnipeg and the Department of Culture and Heritage's perspective, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That is an important matter. As the

minister pointed out, it has been in discussion since the creation of Nunavut. We are actively looking for options and solutions. We have artefacts and art collections in different locations that require negotiations to maintain those collections. We know this should not be forever. They are temporary measures.

For the lack of having a proper facility in Nunavut, the department created a new program under its *Grants and Contributions Policy* to support small capital projects of \$500,000 that can be accessed. If a community wants to establish a small cultural facility in their community, then those funds can be accessed to create those facilities. When those facilities are in place and have the adequate equipment, because you need a climate controlled environment for some of these projects or artefacts, some of the artefacts that can travel could be displayed in the communities for people in the communities to actually enjoy.

In the short term, we have this \$500,000 initiative that is available to communities. In the meantime, we are actively negotiating with our different partners to ensure that our artefacts are properly stored, but with the view that they will eventually come back to Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. At this time, we will take a 10-minute break. Thank you.

>>*Committee recessed at 14:58 and resumed at 15:26*

**Chairman:** I would like to call the committee meeting back to order. (interpretation) Welcome to the gallery, Sandy Akavak.

>>*Applause*

(interpretation ends) Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Heritage. Following the list of names, Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question related to one issue that I want to ask which one of our colleagues alluded to earlier. It is regarding the art gallery housing the artefacts. I know that we don't have a facility, at least that I am aware of. These artefacts, most of which are ancient tools of our ancestors, are commemorated only through stories and the descendants learn about these tools through various courses about history.

With respect to these artefacts, I heard earlier that we have no words for the tools. Wouldn't it be easier to come up with terminology related to the Inuit lifestyle and culture, that if we had words already used for hunting tools and so on, it would allow the outside world to learn more about our Inuit culture?

I wanted to comment on this issue. I have thought long and hard on this issue and how we Inuit can update the erroneous stereotypes the outside world views us with. Has our minister ever contemplated ways to improve this perception? Has he already provided direction or is this already under development? I wanted to ask about this matter, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to archaeological artefacts that the

member is speaking about, it involves working with legislation as well as the Inuit Heritage Trust and the storage of these artefacts from our Inuit ancestors.

There are several areas that require our compliance in speaking about this issue. Perhaps if we looked at Nunavut overall, archaeology involves several different fields. If the member can specify which particular aspect, language or cultural issue, he is referring to. It may not even be part of his question, but I would prefer the member to specifically mention his issue, as we will be better able to respond. I apologize about that need to request further clarification from my colleague. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. If you can provide more details or specify which part your question applies to. Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I was referring to the artefacts and traditional cultural practices, as I believe both of them are under one department. These artefacts originally had names for each piece, as that was how they were made. They stem from our ancient language and cultural practices of our Inuit ancestors.

I wanted to see a written summary of these artefacts explaining each piece and historical use as a minimum because this would at least place these names into our modern consciousness of Inuit who are descended from these ancestors and become part of our daily lives. Is that any clearer or understandable now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The way I understand it, part of it is a day-to-day issue, so Mr. Cloutier will elaborate on that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The importance of artefacts that are from Nunavut but being stored in other locations like in Yellowknife or Ottawa, we are actively working on funding options and solutions, not only in the short term but in the long term, to ensure that Nunavummiut can benefit and enjoy access to those artefacts, their heritage, cultural and physical heritage.

The Department of Heritage has a number of programs that promote heritage and culture in Nunavut. There are community initiatives. There are also grants and contributions provided to community organizations and non-profit organizations to promote local heritage initiatives or local cultural initiatives.

There is also the Archaeology Program that oversees the administration and the issuance of archaeological permits for groups that want to do archaeological fieldwork in Nunavut. There is a program set up for that.

There is also the Archives program that oversees the storage and administration of government public records, as well as private collections coming from individual organizations. The Archives program looks after that.

The Toponymy Program is also a program that registers official place

names and provides support to community groups in collaboration with our key partners to ensure that place names around Nunavut communities are well documented, in Inuktitut most often.

Then there are public library services where there are a number of different community library services in different communities. There is funding that goes towards the operations and maintenance of those types of services to Nunavummiut in different communities across Nunavut.

These are some of the core programs. I hope I answered the member's question correctly. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Heritage. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a question for clarification. I think we are still on page F-6. It was mentioned that you are working with the Greenlandic government on the arts. I apologize if this was asked already, but I would like to ask how many students we have in Greenland and how much the government spends on each student so that they can get training over there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond to the question.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Sorry, I don't see it in the business plan under Heritage, but we do have an initiative with respect to Greenland under Directorate. The number of potential students we could eventually send to Greenland will be two and that would be with the National Theatre School of Greenland. It would be a two-year program. The school has five students now but with a maximum of seven students.

It is a very intensive program. It requires a lot of dedication and commitment on the part of the students. Potentially that's what we would be looking at for students. To my knowledge, there are currently no students from Nunavut in Greenland with respect to our program, but that would be in the upcoming fiscal year. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It looks like students will be sent this upcoming fiscal year. How much money are we going to spend on the two students? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In the upcoming fiscal year, we are going to explore the feasibility and possibility of sending students. They would apply through the regular process for getting student financial assistance, which will be through FANS. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do I understand correctly that when students apply for funding in Canada, they apply for financial assistance under the same program? Is that the only assistance we would provide, even though they're outside Canada? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will elaborate on the question.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We are looking at the options with our partners or stakeholders to find the best options to support those students to go to Greenland and take advantage of those courses. We have some examples of students this year for other initiatives not related to culture and heritage, but some students that actually are attending the Folk School in Sisimiut where they got a bit of support from FANS. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I'll rephrase my question. Do we still have no idea how much money we spend to send students over there to the theatre school? Is it still not set up? Do I understand that correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will speak to the budget for that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier**: What we are looking at is the travel for potential students plus living expenses. I don't have the concrete numbers to provide you, but we do have funds set aside under our programs to potentially support two students if there are two students interested in going. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a concern with this "might be the case." I don't want to approve things that might be the case. We have to approve detailed information because government money is public money. Can you point to exactly which line item it would come from if students were interested? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. If it could be clarified in the business plan also, Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We will commit to ensuring that we have the figures for this. What we have in the business plan as a priority is to identify the partnerships. Once we have identified those partnerships with the Government of Greenland and the Government of Nunavut, we will be able to bring forward those figures. What we plan to do for the upcoming fiscal year is to identify those partnerships. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask my last question. In the main estimates for 2016-17, you will not be spending any money that year to send students to Greenland? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will clarify that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends)

What we have set as a priority is to identify who our partners will be that can contribute to the initiative. Once those partners are identified, we will go ahead with the initiative of sending two students to Greenland. If it is in the next following fiscal year, then it will be in the next fiscal year, but our priority is to really identify partners that can move this priority ahead in the future. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Heritage. Following my list of names, Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to archaeology, perhaps I can start off with a request for clarification about how the Department of Culture and Heritage collaborates with Inuit Heritage Trust and federal government departments dealing with archaeology. How do you work with them? That is my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If I understand the question correctly, how does our department works with Inuit Heritage Trust, as an example. There are a couple of initiatives. One is with respect to the collection of place names. Under the *Nunavut Land Claims*

*Agreement*, Inuit Heritage Trust is responsible for collecting Inuit place names across Nunavut. Once those names are collected, they can be passed on to the Department of Culture and Heritage for review and also approval to make them official on Nunavut maps. This is one area of collaboration.

The other area of collaboration is with respect to what we had been discussing earlier, the management of artefacts, the various collections, and finding solutions to ensure those artefacts are repatriated to Nunavut in the future or to find at least mid-term, short-term, and long-term solutions to these important matters.

These are a couple of areas that I can mention with respect to that.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank him for the response. Perhaps with respect to your different partnerships, I wonder if it includes lands within Nunavut that have a status placed on them, perhaps certain archaeological sites or if I say (interpretation ends) heritage site (interpretation) status that can be selected by the federal government. Does your department use these special places status selections as part of its work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike**: Thank you. (interpretation) Mr. Cloutier will explain that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, there is collaboration. Our department gets involved with respect to those historical sites, either from an archaeological perspective or with respect to documentation. There is ongoing dialogue and collaboration with various federal stakeholders, Parks Canada, and so on. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if he can speak to how many requests have been made for approval, perhaps to Parks Canada, or would it be sent to them? Are you able to provide a list of lands that have been recognized as either archaeological or heritage sites? Do you have a list? If I was understandable, that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I do not have that information in front of me at this point, but we could surely

work with our departmental officials to get this information. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I'm bringing this up is in the communities that we represent, we know which places should be recognized. We have a visitor from Kimmirut, Sandy Akavak, who is very knowledgeable about a place called Imiligaarjuk. In English, it is called (interpretation ends) Cape Tanfield. (interpretation) It is being looked at by heritage people to recognize it.

Is there some more work that can be done on that or more considerations or have you looked at that and all the artefacts that have been uncovered there and are still being uncovered? With the fact that it could be used as a teaching tool, have you considered that line at all either with Nunavut Arctic College or with archaeologists? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, there is a process that needs to be followed with respect to historical sites. I must apologize, I do not have the details of that process in front of me today, but we can certainly provide the

detailed process to the member. It can be provided. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you and I will be expecting that. Not just that, but there are other places in Nunavut that have different stories where the people know that there are heritage stuff that people want recognized or protected.

Let me move on to something else. In your business plan on page 76 under Priorities (2015-16), it states that "an additional \$150,000 was allocated to support community radio stations..." Has that improved the local community radio stations and, if so where? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. If he's talking about the priorities for 2015-16, the \$150,000 to support community radio stations through grants and contributions, I would like Ms. Adla to answer the question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was \$150,000 previously that could be requested for and we were able to get more money for it. We contributed a total of \$225,000 to the communities in the 2015-16 fiscal year and we were very happy about that because we got more requests than we expected. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the entire \$225,000 given to radio stations or was it just added to what you were giving the radio stations already? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Adla will explain that.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We increased it by \$75,000. It's usually \$150,000, but we added \$75,000 to it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It also states that it is through the Grants and Contributions Program. In case I didn't hear you correctly, did all the communities request funding through this program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Adla will continue with the response.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We received many

requests, but not from all the communities. I can say the names of the communities. In total, 14 communities applied and received funding from this program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you could tell me which communities did not get the funding, it would be easier just to find out. My other question would be: of those communities that received funding, did they all receive the same amount of money? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like Ms. Adla to respond to that too, please. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a list of the communities that did not get money in front of me. However, I do know the communities that got funding and they did not get the same amount of money because they submitted different proposals. I could say the names of the communities that got funding if you want to know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): You can go ahead and say the names of the communities. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Cambridge Bay received \$15,000 in funding, Cape Dorset received \$15,000, and (interpretation ends) Chesterfield Inlet (interpretation) received the same amount of money. Clyde River, Coral Harbour, (interpretation ends) Hall Beach, (interpretation) Iqaluit, and Kimmirut each got \$20,000. Kugluktuk, Naujaat, and Pangnirtung each received \$15,000. Pond Inlet, Sanikiluaq, and Taloyoak each received \$15,000. Qikiqtarjuaq requested \$9,500 and that's what they received. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that response. Community radio stations operate on a daily basis, so I thank the Department of Culture and Heritage for providing funding for that. News and information is broadcast using our language on the radio, and local people rely on community radio to be kept informed. I am just expressing my support to the Department of Culture and Heritage for this program.

If any of the radio stations require repairs, I would like you to promote that aspect of it. Radio stations are very busy and I know many people volunteer at the radio stations, especially during Christmas. I would like to see even more support for them because they are very beneficial to our communities. They are very useful and it helps in keeping people informed of the day-to-day activities and emergencies. I'll stop there for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Heritage. (interpretation) Following my list of names, Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Minister and staff. I just have a few questions here. In the business plan on page 75, there is a program called "Toponymy." It talks about, "The program conducts research on geographic names, consults with Elders and with communities" on place names. Are they making maps for the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will respond. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier**: There is a position, a GIS position, in Igloolik that is responsible for producing maps when research is done on place names to ensure the proper coordinates so that place names are properly placed on maps. At the request of a community, they can receive that support or that assistance. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak**: Just for clarity, is that for the surrounding community or is it for all of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cloutier will answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It's throughout Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you. On the same page, Nunavut Public Library Services, you indicate, "...provides operational funding to 10 community libraries, and purchases library materials relevant to the north and Nunavut's communities." Which communities are getting that funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike:** Thank you. (interpretation) Ms. Adla will answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The following communities receive operational funding: Arviat, Baker Lake, Cambridge Bay, Cape Dorset, Clyde River, Igloolik, Kugluktuk, Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, and Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary.

Heritage. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question I have is I'm wondering how involved the department is, if at all, in heritage buildings. Maybe they're not classified as heritage buildings, but let's say really old buildings from maybe the '40s or something that the community feels is important. Does the department have anything to do with that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. My apologies. We have no program for such things. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just thinking of buildings like the old hospital in Pangnirtung that was built very early on and I know that it's in disarray right now. When I last went to Pangnirtung, I saw that it was falling apart and people aren't allowed in anymore, but it is a significant building that holds a lot of history. Is this something that the community could go to your department with a request for assistance in this area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The communities can certainly approach the department for assistance or advice on how best to proceed for the maintenance or safeguard for that type of building in terms of what programs that would be available for the protection of those buildings. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we try to preserve old buildings, is this something that is important to this government or do you leave it to the communities to decide whether or not a building is important? If you're going to leave it to the community to decide, how satisfied are you as a department that the community members actually know there's a process that they could go through if they so wanted to preserve a building?

We have a lot of old buildings and some of them are boarded up, but I feel that they have a lot of history in them. Is this something that the government has even a list of, of what you have in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understand your question clearly, it is in regard to heritage sites. The Pangnirtung blubber station is also a heritage site. The department also deals with parks. In Pangnirtung, I know that some parks are being taken care of by tourism as they try to establish the tourism industry.

Mr. Cloutier will respond to the question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman (interpretation ends) To my knowledge, we don't have a list of those types of buildings across Nunavut. Depending on the nature of buildings, there are grants and contributions available for heritage facilities. What we would encourage is the communities to contact the department. We are open to having dialogue and discussions with respect to what their projects are about and see if they are eligible under our grants and contribution programs. If it doesn't fit within those programs, then we can provide assistance on the best course of action to proceed with the protection of those buildings. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we talk about the heritage part of the department, I know that through the Archaeology Division, old Thule sites and that are protected, but I'm just wondering how much effort is put to some of these buildings. The example that the minister provided to us in the House today is that Parks Canada came forward and restored that building, but if it's not Parks Canada, would that building have fallen and gone to nothing? Who's looking after all the other buildings? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation):

Thank you. With regard to archaeological and heritage sites, I know that we can take a look at its current status. The government policies which are being implemented for the culture and heritage department also includes work on Inuit culture and societal values. We have to be mindful of that and we will be able to look into that more. That's my response to your concern. I just want you to know that we have a foundation based on Inuit societal values. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Angnakak**: Thank you. I think the heritage part can involve many areas.

When I was in Nain, Labrador one year, we went into the old Moravian church and accommodations from hundreds of years ago that they had preserved. It was really interesting to see even the writing on the wall by some of those past occupants.

To me, buildings are also an important part. If they played an important part in the history of the community, then I think we should try to make sure that they are preserved because they are part of the story.

I would like to go on to something else. Another thing was brought up to me and it was from a different community than Iqaluit. The family had history where an old whaler had married an Inuk and they had an outpost camp kind of thing. This family was worried that somebody had gone to their old camp from a long time ago and had dug up some graves and taken some stuff and things like that. If

this was the case, where would a family like this go to for help?

They have an idea who did it, but they don't have the money to go and investigate and do all that kind of thing. In fact, this family told me that they saw their grandfather's possessions in a book that supposedly had been buried. When this kind of thing happens, what is the process? What should a family do? Is this where your department can help? Can you help in this area and, if so, what does the family have to do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer your question to Mr. Cloutier so that he can respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) What the family can do is report it to the Department of Culture and Heritage, to the director of heritage. There are regulations with respect to archaeological sites. We are not to go around and start digging graves or potential sites that have archaeological artefacts. If that was the case, it can be reported to the director of heritage and then the director will investigate and take action, if needed, in terms of what would be the next steps. There are regulations that prevent digging out archaeological artefacts by anyone in Nunavut. We have to abide by those regulations and the law. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you found out that somebody was digging out where they shouldn't have and they didn't have a licence and all that, what are the consequences of doing that? What happens? Do they get a fine? How do you provide oversight as a department over this potential issue? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) First of all, if there were things taken, they would have to be returned. The individuals would be obligated to return any objects or artefacts that were taken out. In terms of consequences and fines, I don't have the specific regulation in front of me, but there would be consequences. I mean this is not allowed, so it would be a violation of our regulations and legislation in that matter. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Somebody from your department could perhaps travel to the community, talk with the family, go see the site, and try to figure out exactly

what happened. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, the family can contact the director of heritage and the director would follow up with the family. It would probably start first with a conversation over the phone and eventually with a visit. We did have situations that happened like this before where staff from the department travelled to actually investigate and see what was done or what was taken. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one more question and that is on genealogy. In your opening comments, you talked about the program. I just wondered how you're going to roll out that program. How does it work? I saw it in your business plan; I'm just trying to find out where I saw it now. Can you tell us just a little bit more about that program? How does that all work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Mr. Cloutier will answer that question

regarding genealogy. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The intent of the project is to create a guide on how to conduct genealogical research like finding your family tree, your grandparents, your great-grandparents, and how to build an actual family tree. That's the type of service that it is provided in different jurisdictions in Canada. If you go to Ontario, Quebec, or other places, they have services to provide you with assistance on how to do proper research.

There are different databases or different records available with respect to Nunavut. The guide would provide information to Nunavummiut on how to go about finding your ancestors and putting names on your family tree. This would be a guide that would be published. This is the Archives program under Heritage.

We also have elders and youth that have collected a lot of information about oral history, Inuit personal names and so on, so it's a collaborative project between the two divisions to ensure that there is the proper process on how to conduct genealogical research, as well as taking into account Inuit oral history while doing this. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you. I just have one last question on this. When elders come forward with names, how is that guided? Is it something that the elders

are just thinking because of who happens to be around the table or is there like a process that they're using? Furthermore, how is this information being used? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will elaborate on that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The guide would provide information on how to research, let's say, the different records available at Library and Archives Canada and the Hudson's Bay Company Archives. There's a lot of historical information, including about families all across Nunavut, and RCMP patrol files. There are records like this that can be accessed, such as arctic church baptismal and marriage records.

Also in Igloolik, there is an important collection of oral history. There are interviews that were done with elders from Igloolik, but the program also administers work with different communities across Nunavut on oral history. Those types of records and transcriptions are available for research. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Heritage. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$6,008,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Branch Summary. Cultural and Heritage. Elders and Youth. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you. I just want to get a better sense about what kind of programs, when you say, “programs for elders” for example, what are you really talking about here? You’re not talking about the health programs. What kinds of programs are you talking about? 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 Acting Deputy Minister, Mr. Cloutier. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The member is correct. This is not essentially about health programs but what I would call maybe intangible heritage or culture, Inuit knowledge, Inuit oral history.

Just to give you a few examples, for instance, the Elders and Youth Program does on-the-land programs in different communities. There is a resource available for different communities to take elders and youth together to do traditional activities and to pass on Inuit knowledge to younger generations.

Another interesting program is with respect to pattern-making workshops. There have been different pattern-making workshops across Nunavut in

the different regions that involve elders and younger generations to pass on that knowledge and those skills to younger generations.

Some other programs include regional workshops that involve elders. There are a series of different programs that are really to ensure that traditional culture and knowledge of the elders remain alive and get passed on to the next generation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Branch Summary. Culture and Heritage. Elders and Youth. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you. Very briefly, I have one question on elders and youth. Is your department responsible for identifying how old you have to be to be considered an elder? I hope my question is clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. First of all, I can say that we don’t identify how old you have to be to be considered an elder. We don’t have any age limits, but Mr. Cloutier will elaborate on that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That is a very interesting question. We debate it and we hear it often. Depending on who we talk to, the federal government or Inuit organizations, the age seems to change.



I think, with respect to the definition of an elder, it's really based on the experience of the individual, their knowledge, and peer acknowledgement that an individual is an expert in a particular area and will be recognized as such, an elder. This is something that is ongoing. I don't think we can specifically put an age on who is an elder and who is not. It's really, in all fairness, usually this is recognized by peers based on knowledge and experience. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Department of Culture and Heritage, do you have a definition of what an elder is? I hope you understand me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): I'm sorry, but no, we don't. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Branch Summary. Culture and Heritage. Elders and Youth. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$2,208,000. Agreed?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Mr. Okalik

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some questions on this issue regarding *Inuit*

*Qaujimagatuqangit*. We hear quite frequently about IQ days within the departments. Do we still have IQ days in all the departments or how does it work? That's what I would like to find out first. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I think it's called (interpretation ends) Cultural Immersion Day (interpretation) and also (interpretation ends) IQ. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's good to go out clam digging. However, I think they should concentrate on learning IQ knowledge in line with their field of work. I would first like to ask if they can look into that.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll refer this to Ms. Adla. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Adla.

**Ms. Adla** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll respond in English. (interpretation ends) In the Government of Nunavut, there is a *Human Resources Manual* directive specifically on Cultural Immersion Day. Every department is encouraged to follow this directive. There are provisions in there which is in detail to the point where a department

can't just decide, "Today, we're going to implement the Cultural Immersion Day."

To my understanding, a person has to be appointed by the deputy head to proceed with this project, which includes coming up with the budget and the type of activity the department wishes to do. It's not just something that the department can do at a spur of the moment. Planning is required. Like I said, there is a process and it must be followed.

Even subsequent to the Cultural Immersion Day, a report has to be presented and brought forth to the deputy head in detail. I don't have a copy of that directive in front of me, but there is a process in place where each department needs to follow and decide on what they consider a cultural immersion project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Their department takes a leadership role in *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. My question is if the activities could be geared more towards a specific department. We know that we're always learning new things about healing programs in Clyde River. They could even be invited. What are (interpretation ends) social workers (interpretation) called in Inuktitut? They can utilize the social workers for social issues. They could look into those areas. That would be more appropriate to strengthen their duties and positions within the departments. I would also like to ask that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Government staff will increasingly work based on *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. They can't just leave their communities, even if it's just for a day. Is this what you trying to say? This is something worth considering and it would be useful in dealing with *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. If something like this can be developed for staff to stay in their workplace and how *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* can be implemented more in their job, we can look into that.

Further, with respect to your comment about counselling, it is also under the mandate of the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit. Perhaps I can respond as the minister here that if we have this reviewed, then it would be amenable for the purpose of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* standing by itself. At least that is how I understood it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it would make this much more useful, so I thank the minister for having taken that into consideration.

Now this is another matter I know of, which is identified in the business plan on page 79. It speaks about the Tuttarviit Committee and they work out of separate offices. Is it sufficient and do they include elders who come to the offices to collaborate with this committee? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will elaborate on that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I just hope I understood the question correctly; correct me if I'm wrong.

With respect to IQ coordinators in each department, there are currently 12 appointed IQ coordinators. All members of the Tuttarviit group meet on a regular basis within the GN to discuss the integration of ISV and IQ in GN policies and programs. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are they directly involved? We would look at plans where Inuit cultural practices and needs weren't even considered. If they were applied more in their planning, it would be clearer. I think Inuit needs would stand out more if the coordinators worked properly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* that the member refers to is part of our future. We need to lead the activities of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* into the day-to-day

operations of the government. The Tuttarviit Committee will be the means to do that. Did I understand that correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of Tuttarviit are in every government department. Are they running properly and where can improvements be made? In looking at the plans that we are reviewing, they are not aimed for Inuit and one would like to add to them. If they were part of it properly, then Inuit societal values would have been reflected. Are there any future plans to make improvements in that area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Cloutier will elaborate on that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Cloutier.

**Mr. Cloutier** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That's a very important matter. It's probably the *raison d'être*, the whole meaning of having Nunavut, the dream of Inuit leaders in creating Nunavut to ensure that not only language and education but Inuit values and knowledge are fully integrated into government programs, policies, and everything.

The Tuttarviit members meet and are consulted with respect to different legislative initiatives and different policies and programs that have an

impact on Nunavummiut. Recent examples are the Department of Health consulted Tuttarviit with respect to the *Mental Health Act* or the *Public Health Act*. There is an ongoing dialogue to ensure that ISV and IQ are reflected with those important initiatives.

What I also want to mention is that as a result of the IQK appearing before the standing committee on operations, the Department of Culture and Heritage was directed to develop a framework to assist departments in better implementing *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, ISV, into their programs, policies, and services.

The framework is being worked on. There is an interdepartmental working group that includes senior officials that are developing the framework, the step by step to help departments in doing a better job in implementing IQ and ISV in their programs. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is desirable to assist with that as they can be a good avenue to reach the departments. I urge them so that future plans will include those things. A great many Inuit continue to have expectations. Some people still don't believe in Nunavut, looking at the way we operate. If these can be incorporated into the plans in the future, we will be able to provide help. I would just like to urge them to get more involved in this. That is all for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): I fully agree with you that that is part of the Department of Culture and Heritage mandate for the 2016-17 fiscal year. As a government, we will try to incorporate *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* into the government's operations. We need to rely more on Inuit societal values. Yes, I agree with the member wholeheartedly. We have already identified in our business plan that we want the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajiit to visit the communities in Nunavut and this is part of the plans we have put together on social issues. As I said, I agree with my colleague and I know that he's in support. We will keep that in mind. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of the questions I wanted to ask were already responded to, so I want to ask about this issue related to *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* for these identified positions. When do you expect to see Inuit societal values incorporated? Is it happening now or has this just recently been taken into consideration for our territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. This whole concept of *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* and its implementation with staffing positions is being gradually phased in. There is no question that after some resolutions had been passed on *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*

implementation, current and future staff positions are expected to follow IQ principles. We had to first establish a foundation on how it will be implemented and there's no question that more will be added as we gain the ability to do so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to speak to this issue, but I might be out of line. Perhaps it will come up later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): You are finished. (interpretation ends) Culture and Heritage. Branch Summary. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$1,335,000. Agreed?

**Some members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Go back to F-3. Department Summary. Culture and Heritage. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$25,697,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Culture and Heritage?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Thank you very much. Minister Mike, you can now make your closing remarks. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I just want to clarify two areas so that we're on the same page with Mr. Enook's question. Inuit art is now displayed at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. If they were not moved there, they would just be sitting in storage. Thanks to your approval, I believe it is timely that the art is now being displayed and people can go view them. I just wanted to point that out. I had forgotten to mention that because my colleague, Mr. Joe Enook, was asking me some very hard questions.

I'm very pleased that the main estimates for the Department of Culture and Heritage have been approved in regard to language legislation. The *Inuit Language Protection Act* is unique. No matter where you go in Canada, there's no legislation like it. We are the only government that protects our Inuit language. It is very unique to Nunavut indeed.

I would like to thank members for the Department of Culture and Heritage can start working on those issues because you have approved the main estimates. As aboriginal people, our language in Canada is unique because we can make legislation as Members of the Legislative Assembly with regard to language and culture. The *Official Languages Act* recognizes three different languages, with the Inuktitut language being completely protected. It's very interesting. I would like to state that the approval of the main estimates will be geared to this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Sergeant-at-Arms, please

escort the officials out.

Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We will take a five-minute break to prepare for the next department. (interpretation) Thank you.

>> *Committee recessed at 16:54 and resumed at 17:02*

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

**Chairman:** I would now like to call the committee meeting back to order. I would now like to ask the Minister of Justice if he has officials that he would like to appear before the committee. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have some officials that I would like to bring to the witness table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the committee agree to let the minister's staff go to the witness table?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

For the record, Minister, please introduce your officials.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Bill MacKay, Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice, and to my left is Yvonne Niego, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome to the House, Mr. MacKay and Ms. Niego. Welcome. (interpretation ends) Please proceed with your opening comments, Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the Committee of the Whole to present the Department of Justice's main estimates for operations and maintenance for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

With me today is Deputy Minister Bill MacKay and Assistant Deputy Minister Yvonne Niego.

A total of \$113,855,000 is being requested for the operations of the Department of Justice in the coming fiscal year. This is a \$4,413,000 increase from the 2015-16 fiscal year.

Under law enforcement, the RCMP have requested an increase of \$4,062,000 to meet the uncontrolled forced budget growth in the operations and management for pay and pension increases, the installation of closed circuit TV, housing pool, detachment and replacement costs for storage tanks.

As Minister of Justice, I recognize the ever increasing costs of our policing agreement. I am therefore committed to exploring community-based programs and made-in-Nunavut alternatives to our current policing arrangement. This is the best way to ensure policing in Nunavut is local and fiscally sustainable. One option I am exploring with my federal and territorial colleagues is the expansion of the First Nations Policing program to the north.

With the growing number of departmental staff, the department requests \$130,000 to hire a senior financial reporting analyst for directorate to ensure the level of accuracy on reporting is maintained and \$126,000 for the position of deputy chief coroner for court services to give support to the coroner and to comply with the office's obligation under the *Coroners Act*. In addition, a request for \$350,000 to meet the uncontrolled forced growth in the operations and management for travel and transportation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome questions from the committee.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the chair of the standing committee have opening comments? Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness on its review of the proposed 2016-17 Main Estimates and 2016-19 Business Plan for the Department of Justice.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2016-17 operations and maintenance budget of \$113,855,000 has increased by approximately 4.3 percent since the introduction of the department's 2015-16 main estimates. The department proposes to add one new position to its Corporate Services Division and one new position to its Court Services Division, bringing its total number of positions to 370 in the 2016-17 fiscal year.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members

took the opportunity to raise a number of issues and concerns.

The standing committee notes that one of the department's goals for the 2016-17 fiscal year is to introduce and begin implementing civil forfeiture legislation in Nunavut.

On January 6, 2016, the department issued a news release indicating that the Government of Nunavut would be holding public consultations on proposed civil forfeiture law. According to that news release, "This new law would allow the territorial government to obtain a court order to confiscate property that is either the 'proceeds' or an 'instrument' of illegal activity." Members look forward to reviewing the proposed civil forfeiture legislation once it has been introduced in the House.

The department's proposed 2016-17 main estimates indicate that \$11,818,000 in funding has been allocated to the Legal Services Board for the 2016-17 fiscal year. This amount remains unchanged from the department's 2015-16 main estimates. The standing committee encourages the minister to continue to work with his provincial and territorial counterparts to lobby the federal government to fund a greater proportion of the costs of criminal and civil legal aid.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed law enforcement budget of \$40,297,000 in funding has increased by 11.2 percent since the introduction of the department's 2015-16 main estimates.

During his recent appearance before the standing committee, the minister stated

that the increase in his department's law enforcement budget is the result of an uncontrolled forced budget growth.

The standing committee recognizes that under the *Canada-Nunavut Territorial Police Services Agreement*, decisions concerning human resources and training within the RCMP division in Nunavut remain within the federal jurisdiction. However, the standing committee notes that the minister may also provide strategic direction and priorities to the commanding officer of the "V" Division through avenues such as the Contract Management Committee.

The standing committee encourages the minister to use his role on the Contract Management Committee to ensure that RCMP officers and administrative staff are provided opportunities such as Inuit language training and to ensure that detachments are adequately staffed to meet each community's needs.

On March 1, 2013, the 2012-14 Shared Directional Statement between the Department of Justice and the RCMP's "V" Division was tabled in the Nunavut Legislative Assembly. This document outlined a number of priority areas for collaboration between the department and the RCMP's "V" Division, including communication, communities at risk, and crime reduction and prevention. The standing committee encourages the minister to table a new shared directional statement in the House at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Chairman, the minister has previously indicated that his department is interested in implementing a "wellness court" within Nunavut's current justice system. Similar services in Yukon and

the Northwest Territories have recently been established to divert offenders with mental illnesses, addictions, and cognitive impairments from standard correctional sentencing. Members look forward to receiving ongoing updates on this initiative.

Mr. Chairman, the department's Corrections Services is responsible for providing safe custody and detention, probation and parole supervision, counselling and aftercare services, and rehabilitation treatment for adult inmates throughout Nunavut.

On March 10, 2015, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly tabled the Auditor General of Canada's 2015 report on corrections in Nunavut. In May of 2015, witnesses from the Office of the Auditor General and the Government of Nunavut's Department of Justice appeared before the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on the occasion of its review of the Auditor General's 2015 report. On June 1, 2015, the standing committee presented its own report on its review to the Legislative Assembly.

On October 29, 2015, pursuant to Rule 91(5) of the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut*, the department tabled its response to the standing committee's report. In its response, the department provided an action plan, which includes timelines, progress indicators, roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, and communications strategies, by which the department intends to address the recommendations that were made by the Office of the Auditor General in his 2015 report on corrections in Nunavut.



Mr. Chairman, the standing committee emphasizes the importance of safely housing inmates and guiding their rehabilitation and successful reintegration into the community. The standing committee looks forward to receiving ongoing updates on the department's work to implement this action plan.

On May 1, 2015, the Department of Justice issued a request for proposals titled *Staffing, Overtime and Organizational Review of the Nunavut Corrections Division*. In its October 29, 2015 response, the department indicated that the results of this review are scheduled to be tabled in the House during the spring 2016 sitting of the Legislative Assembly and that the department "hopes to have the necessary positions created to allow for an assessment of programs and services within Nunavut's correctional facilities."

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee emphasizes the importance of incorporating *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* within all levels of government program delivery and policy development. In its October 29, 2015 response, the department indicated that "The support of elders within the correctional setting has been invaluable to the rehabilitation of inmates. Their assistance through group and individual counselling has facilitated an environment of healing, learning, and pride."

The standing committee notes that other jurisdictions, such as the Manitoba Adult Correctional Services, have advertised and employed positions that are responsible for providing culturally specific programming. The standing committee emphasizes the importance of

establishing permanent positions that may be responsible for providing traditional counselling and culturally-based programming throughout Nunavut's corrections service.

In its October 29, 2015 response, the department indicates that it "will be pleased to table the first Annual Report on Correctional Services in Nunavut in the October 2016 sitting of the Nunavut Legislative Assembly for the 2015/2016 fiscal year." The standing committee notes with pleasure that beginning this practice will allow the department to provide important information concerning corrections in Nunavut on an annual basis. The standing committee looks forward to reviewing this document with care.

Mr. Chairman, given the nature of Department of Justice's mandate, it is important that the department set an example for the government with respect to meeting its statutory requirements for the tabling of annual reports, especially reports that are of significant interest to the public. These include annual reports under the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*, the *Human Rights Act*, the *Labour Standards Act*, the *Legal Profession Act*, the *Legal Services Act*, the *Liquor Act*, and the *Victims of Crime Act*. The standing committee looks forward to such annual reports being tabled in a timely manner.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2016-17 Main Estimates and 2016-19 Business Plan of the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Well read. The floor is now open for general comments.

I want to remind members that the contents of the minister's opening comments are covered in the different branches of the department. If you have detailed questions, please ask them under the appropriate branches.

Do members have any general comments? I hear none. We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting on page E-4. Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. Mr. Shooyook.

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe we're on E-4. Are we on that page? Yes. On this page, I will be asking questions regarding *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* and its implementation in the justice system, and that the elders be utilized to provide traditional counselling to the inmates. That was the direction that we gave the department. In your plans, is there already something in your department where you utilize traditional Inuit counsellors? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Shooyook for his question. It seems that we just had this conversation the other day with the Department of Finance. I appreciate the member for asking that.

Throughout the Department of Justice, we do incorporate IQ. We have an elder advisor who works in the department. In our shared directional agreement with the RCMP, we encourage them to respect the traditional and cultural traditions in the community. Through various justice committees in the

communities, we utilize Inuit elders to help the justice committees when they're meeting with people who appear before them.

There was a question from Mr. Shooyook yesterday about elders sitting with judges. We use that where possible, where an elder can sit with a judge and the judge can turn to the elder and ask for advice and information to assist them in making their sentencing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the Minister of Justice for his response. It is something that is dear to my heart. I think we should consult with elders when you're drafting new laws and incorporating *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* into the legislation so that we're not just paying lip service.

Is there anything in the plans where you will draft the provision of traditional counselling and writing it down so that it can be utilized in the future, even after we have passed away? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Shooyook for his question and comment. When we are preparing legislation or amending our new legislation, we develop legislative proposals and we use the committees within the government to assist us and they do consult with organizations like NTI.

The legislative proposals would come to the cabinet committee on legislation for consideration, and then we would bring it into the House and get first and second reading, and then turn it over to the standing committee. They are then able to call for interveners or ask people to provide their input. That could be communities or it could be other organizations with interest in IQ. The standing committee could go on the road consulting communities.

We do try to ensure that any legislation that we develop has a lot of consultations and input before we bring it forward. Sometimes it could take a very short time to prepare legislation, but often it takes years to get everybody's input to make sure we have legislation that is made in Nunavut and suits our territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response. I have another question. I believe you have an elder employed at this facility who is a healing specialist. Now, if I am correct, I think there are three positions at the correctional centre, including the women's correctional facility and Makigiarvik. These are all under the Baffin Correctional Centre.

I would like to ask if these three positions are held by real Inuit who are unilingual or if they are able to speak English, they retain knowledge of traditional Inuit customs and practices. Do these three positions have an element of their work including advice and

counselling as well as healing practices? I am referring to these three positions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Shooyook for his question. Mr. Chairman, we use bilingual Inuit in these facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Shooyook.

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be my last question. In the plan, *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* has to be implemented. There is care and compassion and counselling in *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit*. When there is sufficient funding, are we going to be increasing the number of Inuit counsellors and possibly putting it up to three or four positions? Would you increase the number of Inuit counsellors providing services in those facilities? That's my last question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. I would like to remind my colleagues to make sure we have quorum so that our meeting can continue. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Shooyook for the question. Mr. Chairman, we already have three to four Inuit counsellors in the facilities, but as we all know, through the budgeting process, it is fairly challenging to get money approved for all the tremendous needs we have

throughout the government in other departments as well, not just the justice department.

In the future, when we develop our future business plans and main estimates, that's an item we can consider in our business plan, but I can't guarantee that. There may be other positions within the department that are more of a priority to try to get a budget for and to hire them, but it's something we will take under consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. Following the list of names, Mr. T. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Tom Sammurtok**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I ask a question based on this, with your permission, I would like to ask a question from the minister's opening remarks.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 2 of the opening remarks, the last paragraph, last sentence, "A request for \$350,000 to meet the uncontrolled forced growth in the operations and management for travel and transportation." I find that somewhat general and vague. I wonder if I could get an explanation of what that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. T. Sammurtok for that question. Mr. Chairman, that would be covered under the mains, page E-7. That's \$350,000 for travel and transportation for court services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Yes. (interpretation ends) As I indicated, some of these comments are covered under different branches. Right now, we are doing Directorate. Do you have any more questions, Mr. T. Sammurtok? Mr. T. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Tom Sammurtok**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On January 6, 2016, your department issued a news release stating that, and I quote, "The Government of Nunavut is holding public consultations on a proposed civil forfeiture law." Can you provide a list of communities where these consultations were held and can you describe the outcome? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. T. Sammurtok. Let me find it; I'm just reading the fine print here.

The six communities are Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake, Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, and Pond Inlet. That's six. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for bearing with me.

There was a report prepared that I read over the last several days and it was very positive. A lot of people turned out and gave some very good input and support of civil forfeiture legislation. We have compiled all this into the report and we are moving forward and preparing a legislative proposal to proceed with an introduction of civil forfeiture legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. T. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Tom Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the minister can explain what this proposed civil forfeiture law entails, who enforces it, and what does it really do at the end? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Hon. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is not a new idea. It has been around for a while. As members will recall, there are a lot of bootleggers and drug dealers in Nunavut who have gotten wealthy off the backs of a lot of our citizens.

The civil forfeiture legislation would be a tool that the Government of Nunavut or the RCMP could use to bring against the property of proceeds of unlawful activity, as they call it. It could be cash. It could be buildings. It could be vehicles or snowmobiles. It's not against people.

The RCMP would refer a case to the civil forfeiture office, in other words, to the Government of Nunavut, then the forfeiture office would go to the court to get a seizure order, and then the sheriff would serve it on the person.

The person being served would still have an opportunity to go to court to prove that the assets they have were acquired through lawful means. It's not just a case where we're going to go in there and take your assets. You will have your day in court to prove that the assets that may be seized were gained legally.

At the end of the process, the intention is to disrupt the bootlegger, seize assets, and make it very difficult to get wealthy

in Nunavut by selling drugs or booze. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. T. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Tom Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be my last question on this item. The 2012 report of the task force to review the *Liquor Act* indicated that seven provinces have civil forfeiture legislation. Which province's legislation may be the best model for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. T. Sammurtok for his question. Mr. Chairman, we have looked at other jurisdictions to see what their legislation is composed of. In my answer to Mr. Shooyook earlier, our legislation will be legislation that's made in Nunavut and suited for Nunavut. At the end of the day, the individual whose assets are potentially being seized will have an opportunity to have their day in court to prove that the assets are theirs and they gained it legally. We're going to tailor our legislation to suit Nunavut's needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. We are on Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. Following the list of names, Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's good to be recognized. I just want to do a follow-up question to Mr. Sammurtok's question regarding forfeiture. You said that part of the process is going to be where the courts are going to be used to prove that they

got something through a legitimate means.

Our courts seem to be so busy now. I'm wondering: how will the extra workload be accommodated? In fact, I think the courts are already using justice committees and some other alternative means instead of going to court to try to alleviate the number of cases before the courts. This is going to add to the workload. Has this been discussed? How will this additional workload be accommodated? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for her question. It's a valid concern, but at the same time, the Government of Nunavut can't not develop new legislation and new laws for Nunavut just because there are not enough judges in Nunavut. That would be a separate issue that we would have to address.

At the same time, we need to proceed with this legislation because we did consultations across Nunavut and we got some very positive feedback and we are going to move forward with it. There will be ongoing consultations and we will consider the implications or the extra work that may be imposed on the Nunavut Court of Justice in the implementation.

We can't presuppose how busy the civil forfeiture office will be. Unless there's an avalanche of civil forfeiture cases, I can't see it being very busy in the early going. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it's a wait-and-see kind of thing. I think it really is something to be mindful of because we are already experiencing those kinds of problems now.

I just want to go into the Public Trustee program, which I don't know very much about at all, but I have heard that it takes forever. If somebody dies without a will, let's say the person who died has a house, the rest of the family members seem to have to wait for a very long time. Can you explain the process of how that kind of service works and why it takes so long? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for that question. It's helpful if an individual dies with a will. That would make it much easier. If they don't die with a will, then that places an extra burden on the settlement of their estate.

I don't have the numbers of cases that...  
. Oh, actually, I do. It magically appeared.

>>*Laughter*

It's quite a busy office. It takes time to make sure that everybody who has a stake in the estate is being contacted so that the Public Trustee knows where all the assets are and who has a claim on the assets. There are survivors and there are also, I would say, creditors who may have a stake on the estate. They have to be contacted.

It can be quite a lengthy process if there were significant assets involved. If a person dies and they don't have any assets, then it's likely a shorter timeframe. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be interested if you could tell me about the length of time for a simple case versus one that is a little bit more complicated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for her question. I would love to share that information with you, but we just don't have that level of detail with us here today. We can get that information in the coming days and circulate it to the members if you wish. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The other thing I note with interest in your business plan under this area is that the Public Trustee program also represents those in need of protection because of a disability. What is that? Can you explain that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. If I can make a

recommendation, Mr. Chairman, if the questions can be directed to the correct page, it would be helpful. I'll have my deputy minister respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. MacKay.

**Mr. MacKay:** Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Public Trustee covers both people that die without a will and they need to handle their estate. They also handle the estates of disabled people that aren't able to handle their estate and don't have anybody appointed to act as trustee for the estate. The Public Trustee performs that service as well. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you. I was referring to page 38. Sorry, I did not make that reference. Page 38 of your business plan, I am looking at the top there where you talk about the Public Trustee program, "in need of protection because of disability." How does that work? Who raises the flag that somebody might need protection? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Mr. Chairman, we don't have that information here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you. I think I read on E-4 that the ADM is in charge of the Public Trustee office. Is that correct?

Maybe they could just clarify that.  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. That would come, I believe, under Directorate. Yes, the Office of the Public Trustee. Directorate is the DM and ADM. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you. On page 38 at the top I'm reading, it says, "An ADM oversees the Community Justice Division...the policing file as well as the Office of the Public Trustee program." That's why I'm asking these questions. I'm not sure, Ms. Niego, are you the ADM? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Yes, Ms. Niego is the ADM. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you. Just that when you said that you didn't have that kind of information, it got me a little bit confused because you have the ADM that actually oversees that program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Was that a question? Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. If I can put everything in

context and perspective here, I have been the minister of the department for eight days. The deputy minister has been here since January 26, and Ms. Niego has been here since the end of October. I'm not trying to make excuses, but we don't have all the details that you would have if you have been around for six months to a year. We're all new people here, essentially.

Deputy Minister MacKay will answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. MacKay.

**Mr. MacKay:** Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Nunavut, there is the *Guardianship and Trusteeship Act*. Under that Act, an interested person can apply for someone's estate to be put under the guardianship of the Public Trustee. That's an interested person as defined by the Act. It's pretty broadly defined. It can even be the Public Trustee herself that makes that application.

Just to add to that, for the information of the public, the Public Trustee has a number that you can call to get further information. That number is 1-866-294-2127. They have someone that speaks both English and Inuktitut. If anybody has any questions in the general public about what services the Public Trustee can provide or if they have any questions about estates that are under the trusteeship of the Public Trustee, they can contact that office. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I remind you guys to be considerate of the interpreters. Ms. Angnakak.



**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not reading, so I'm not going fast; I'm just talking.

The other question I have under priorities from the last fiscal year, 2015-16, in your business plan on page 38 at the bottom, you talk about the "development of a Crime Prevention Strategy." I think I went to one of the consultation meetings that happened in the summer before last, if I remember correctly. I'm just wondering the status of that. Where are you with that now, as of today? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. The department is still going through the consultations with various interest groups and individuals. We're hoping to have it out later this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you. I'm wondering if the minister can tell us, under that strategy that you are currently working on, what kinds of prevention initiatives have been identified that can be used in a community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. I have been spending a lot of time reading up on justice in the last week and there is a very thick... I wish I had it here. It's sitting on the corner of

my desk somewhere. It is a very thick report.

All 25 communities were visited and I think they had 75 meetings in the various communities with all kinds of groups and individuals. There are a lot of recommendations, but some of the recommendations were that they identify people who were at high risk of committing crimes and then working with those people so that, hopefully, they won't engage in crime. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** I just have one last question. I do appreciate that you are a new minister, but it is also good to ask the questions for money that is wanting to be approved.

When you talk about in your business plan on page 38, "...to study the feasibility and requirements of alternative courts." At one point, we were talking about a wellness court. Can I get an update on that? Where is that at? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. We're still working on that. We have, again, done a lot of consultations and jurisdictional research across Canada. We noted that the Yukon and the Northwest Territories have legislation, so we are still proceeding.

Again, it's a wellness court initiative that would be made for Nunavut. It would be something that we will continue to work

on here and do some research. Again, we have to keep in mind that we are a vast jurisdiction. We don't know whether or not it's something that can be, in my opinion anyway, available outside the city of Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Justice. Directorate. Following the list of names, Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, Minister Peterson as well as your officials. I don't have too many questions on this. However, in your opening comments on page 2, you talk about adding \$126,000 for the position of the deputy chief coroner. Can you explain if the new deputy chief coroner would include the responsibilities of training coroners in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. Those would be the ongoing responsibilities of the coroner and the deputy coroner to ensure that coroners in the various communities receive training and new training or ongoing training, as the case may be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With this creation of a new position of a deputy chief coroner, can you explain the substantiation for this addition? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for his question. The simple answer is unfortunate, but we have a backlog of inquests going into the next fiscal year, so the coroner needs assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$17,397,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Branch Summary. Justice. Law Enforcement. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. I have one question. I'm not too sure whether I should be asking it on this page, but it's with regard to RCMP officers. We have heard, perhaps, in the Northwest Territories and Yukon that there is a staff housing shortage and the territorial government will have to be responsible for staff housing. What kind of an impact does it have in Nunavut? Do you expect to see a housing shortage for the RCMP staff? This is just a request for information, if you allow me, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Justice, Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. We don't have a supply of housing concern in Nunavut. The concern is more related to the costs of

renting houses, so we're going to be reviewing all of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Justice. Law Enforcement. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$40,297,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Justice. Branch Summary. Lawyer Support Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$3,441,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Branch Summary. Justice. Registries and Court Services. Total Operations. Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have many questions on that page, but I just want you to note that in one of my constituencies, there was a concern regarding the courts circuits when they travel to the communities where they hold their court services.

For example, they hold their court services in the recreation hall or school gym. It has an impact on community activities and sometimes they have to defer the activities at the local level because the courts need to be housed for their services. They have to pay attention at the local level when the court circuit is travelling to the communities to make sure that they travel during the least busy time of the community. When the court circuit goes to the communities, they have to defer some activities at the local level. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasié for the question and I appreciate his concern. Coming from Cambridge Bay, I know some of the issues there well.

I believe the Nunavut Court of Justice schedules their court circuits 6 to 12 months in advance so that they can coordinate all the travel. They have to ensure that they have hotel rooms for all the staff; the judges, lawyers, and other support staff, and then ensure that the people who have to appear before court, if they have to be brought back from... I'll use Cambridge Bay as an example. If they're in remand in Yellowknife, they could be scheduled to be back. It's quite a logistical challenge to organize all the court travel and ensure that people do get their day in court and keep in mind that they are up against uncertain weather conditions at the time and also issues with aircraft.

The Nunavut Court of Justice does try to plan and I'm sure that when they do plan, they do call ahead to see if there will be any community events underway or being planned at the same time and take that into account. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Registries and Court Services. Following the list of names, Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe we have court services for actual courts. I just want to get information. If I'm on the wrong page, please stop me. I have a question

with regard to courts, if I'm in the right place.

We have heard through the media that sometimes they have to do a court circuit, but they end up having to defer services due to a lack of judges. As Nunavummiut, we have stated that we have to wait for a very long time for the court circuit to arrive. There are problems arising from that. What have you done to address this concern and how can this be rectified? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for his question. Again, that is a valid concern as well. Currently, we are short two judges in Nunavut. Unfortunately, the Government of Nunavut can't appoint judges. That can only be done by the federal government. There is a process underway right now and I believe they have nominated some people. We are one of the groups that nominates people to be judges, but there is a review process that takes quite a long time.

At the same time, they can use deputy judges from other jurisdictions, for example, from provinces that can come up for a short term and on short notice, but again, even that's a problem. There are a lot of vacancies in the deputy judge ranks. Again, we have to wait for the federal government to appoint some judges and deputy judges for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. This may be my last question. Since the judge had a concern about this issue, have you asked the appointers to make sure the process is actually faster than they had actually done it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for that. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Although I wasn't the minister at the time, I believe my predecessor raised it at the recent FPT with the federal minister and she is aware. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Branch Summary. Justice. Registries and Court Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$12,514,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Justice. Branch Summary. Corrections. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$35,449,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Branch Summary. Justice. Community Justice. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$4,757,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Back to page E-3. Department Summary. Justice. Total Operations and Maintenance. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and

Maintenance, to be Voted.  
\$113,855,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Justice?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Closing comments, Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you and the committee for your good questions today and for bearing with me as I learn the Department of Justice. As I said, I have been getting caught up on it for the last week and I have answered questions in question period.

I find the Department of Justice is a very interesting department and it can do a lot of good things for Nunavut. I was the Minister of Justice four and a half years ago for almost three years. A lot of that is starting to come back to me and how important the department is to Nunavut.

There are a lot of very important initiatives underway with studies and legislation. We're also working to find solutions to our corrections facilities in Nunavut and also to support our community justice committees, the community justice outreach workers, and all the other people out on the frontlines who go to work daily to help people in the communities. I appreciate their hard work on behalf of our government.

I would like to thank our officials in the Department of Justice. I have met some

the other day and quite a few of them were happy to see me come back. It was good to see them. When I go to visit the Department of Justice, I always go visit the Corporate Services folks first because they're good people. There are a lot of good staff and I appreciate the people here in Iqaluit and all the people out in our communities, all the justice committees, all the elders, and other people who work for us. It's a lot of work.

I would like to thank my officials who came here today, Ji Liu, our corporate services fellow, and Stephen Mansell, our director of policy. They are both in the gallery. I would like to thank Bill MacKay for being here today. I believe it's his first time in Committee of the Whole. Yvonne Niego, is this your first time? It's not her first time, but she's got experience.

>>*Laughter*

I thank everybody. She's got a couple of appearances in her experience. I thank everybody for having us today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

(interpretation ends) We will take a short break before we proceed to the next department, 10 minutes.

>>*Committee recessed at 18:11 and resumed at 18:24*

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

**Chairman:** I would now like to call the committee meeting back to order. I would now like to ask the Speaker of the House if he has officials that he would like to appear before the committee.  
Speaker Qulaut.

**Speaker:** Yes, I do.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the committee agree to let the Speaker's staff go to the witness table?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) For the record, Speaker, please introduce your officials.  
Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. On my left is Director of Corporate Services Michael Rafter and on my right is our Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, John Quirke.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Please proceed with your opening comments, (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before you today to present the 2016-17 Main Estimates and 2016-19 Business Plan of the Office of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

The proposed 2016-17 operations and maintenance budget for the Office of the Legislative Assembly is \$25,897,000. This represents a modest increase of approximately 3.5 percent over our 2015-16 main estimates.

I will speak in English for the rest of the statement.

(interpretation ends) The Legislative Assembly's 2016-17 main estimates also reflect the financial and human resources required for the operations of our independent officers, including the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth. I would note that the legislation which establishes this office is now almost fully in force.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to update members on the progress of a number of digital initiatives that are currently being undertaken by the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

Since April 1, 1999, over 2,100 documents have been formally tabled in the House. A recent initiative is making downloadable versions of tabled documents available to the general public for their ease of reference from the Legislative Assembly's website. I would also note that our audio and video archival project is progressing well, as is our plan to expand public access to our proceedings through such means as live streaming on the Internet.

As a consequence of the tragic events that occurred in Parliament in October of 2014, the Management and Services Board of the Legislative Assembly has been working to review our legislature's security procedures to ensure an

appropriate balance between security and public accessibility.

As members will recall, the fifth investiture ceremony to have been held since the coming into force of the *Order of Nunavut Act* was held in the Chamber in the fall of last year. I pay tribute to the 12 distinguished individuals who have received the Order of Nunavut to date, and I look forward to opening this year's nominations during our upcoming spring sitting.

That concludes my opening comments, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my colleagues for their support and I welcome their comments, suggestions, and questions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** The floor is now open for general comments. Office of the Legislative Assembly on page A-4. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Assembly Operations. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$7,830,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Expenditures on Behalf of Members. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$12,867,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In case I don't ask any

questions to the Speaker, I just want clarification on the independent officers of the Legislative Assembly on page A-6. The child and youth representative just started last year and hired staff. It's a very new office. I'm sure the office was set up with whatever was needed. It appears to have been originally set up in a haphazard manner and it has been around for about a year now. Have there been any unexpected things that resulted such as if you needed to hire more staff? That's my only question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. What a good question. So that you can get a clear answer, I would like (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk, John Quirke, (interpretation) to answer, if you don't mind.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Quirke.

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the office was set up, a bit of a reminder that this office was given to us when the Legislative Assembly passed the legislation. The organizational structure that was identified by the government was passed on to us.

At that particular time, it was really unknown whether the resources and the organizational chart were sufficient for the operation. It turns out, once we stated hiring the individual or the child and youth representative, when she did an analysis of the operations, etcetera, in consultation with other jurisdictions, it

was determined that with the six full-time positions given to them from day one, there was a requirement for three more. She made a business case about those three positions to the Management Services Board, which the board accepted.

The three extra positions included a child and youth advocacy specialist, an intake specialist, and a critical injury and death investigator. That was new because, like I said in the beginning, we weren't too sure what was given to us by the government. Based on analysis, etcetera, it turned out there was a shortfall and that's why she made the business case and those three PYs were given and the increase for the budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Office of the Legislative Assembly. Branch Summary. Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$5,200,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Go back to (interpretation ends) page A-3. Department Summary. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Detail of Expenditures. Total. Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$25,897,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree that we have concluded the Office of the Legislative Assembly?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Speaker Qulaut, you can now make your closing remarks. Speaker Qulaut.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you very much, everyone. We will now be able to proceed well to the next year and spend this money wisely. Thank you very much.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

(interpretation ends) I ask all members to please wait in their seats while we prepare for the last department and that is the Department of Environment.

I would now like to ask the Minister of Environment if he has officials that he would like to appear before the committee. Mr. Mike.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike:** Yes, please.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree to let the minister's staff go to the witness table?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

For the record, Minister, please introduce your officials.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. On my left is my Deputy Minister, Gabriel Nirlungayuk, and on



my right from corporate services is Nikki Nweze. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome, Ms. Nweze and Mr. Nirlungayuk. Mr. Minister, Mr. Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Let me clarify. (interpretation ends) Thank you. I want to take this opportunity to clarify what I said during debate on the Department of Environment's budget in the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Enook had asked me about the grants and contributions programs on page I-6 in our budget. I want to be clear as I stated that no new monies will be added to the budget. After the budget is approved in this House, the department will be tasked to review and implement the 2016-17 budget estimates just like every other department.

If there are changes that need to take place within the projected grants and contributions for the department after it is approved in the House, those policy changes will have to be approved by cabinet while FMB approval will be required to transfer the funds between departmental programs.

Mr. Enook, my colleague, is correct. We cannot reprofile monies in the budget and we are not suggesting that.

Mr. Chairman, the main estimates that you have before you is the budget for the Department of Environment that we are asking you to approve.

I hope that this clarifies my answer and again, I thank Member Enook for raising

it. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. We were on I-5. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Environment. Program Management. Total Operations and Maintenance. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the minister for making that statement.

I would like to ask a question on environment and I had the document in front of me yesterday. We were concerned about two PYs and we wrote a letter to you as a standing committee. We wanted further information on the creation of those two new PYs and I'm sorry we didn't receive a response to our concerns.

It seemed to indicate that these PYs were funded by the federal government. Now there is a possibility that the funding will not be approved for \$360,000. I would just like to have this clarified. Is it still uncertain whether the federal government will continue to provide these funds as before for 2016-17 or is it clear now that this funding for \$360,000 will no longer be approved and you want to bring it before this House? If you would elaborate further on this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Yes, we're making a request for those two PYs and it will come out of that line item. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister is saying that the monies you requested from the federal government has been denied. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. From what we know, yes, that is the case. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, in that letter we wrote as a standing committee, we had asked for additional information. We wanted to get a response from you about the two PYs and what their responsibilities and (interpretation ends) job titles (interpretation) will be. It's too bad that you haven't responded to our letter. I'm sure there is a job title for these two PYs. Are they going to be employees of the Nunavut government and when are you going to be putting them out? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. 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. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Mr. Enook. I don't have the letter in front of me, but we're requesting for two additional PYs. We have employees now, but in order to proceed with work on climate change, we are requesting two additional PYs. Their job descriptions and titles will be given to you by way of correspondence. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You're requesting two PYs. From what we understand, they're already employed by your department. I think that's what you said. Those two employees will just keep doing what they have been doing, but they will only be funded by the Nunavut government. Do I understand that correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Yes, you understood it correctly. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): We know that these two employees are going to be working on climate change. Even if it is not written down, I would like you to tell us exactly what is their job description. This letter was written on February 9 and today, we are into March. Maybe you didn't receive our letter or it came in late. We requested the information quite a while back about the job descriptions of these two PYs. Can you at least give

us some sort of an overall description of what they're going to be doing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. We can give the committee the information by way of a letter. Thank you.

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

>> *Laughter*

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, that wasn't me.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, sometimes it gets quite hilarious.

With those two PYs, one is an indeterminate position and the other one is a casual position. Why is it like that and is it going to stay like that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Nweze will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Ms. Nweze.

**Ms. Nweze**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the two provisions we have, one is the climate change coordinator position and the second one is the climate change outreach position. We already have employees in the positions. The PYs

were paid before through the federal government's funding, but we are not receiving that funding anymore.

To make sure that we retain the positions to do all the climate change programming, we want to move the positions to Vote 1 so that the GN will be paying for those PYs. That is the reason why we have requested \$350,000. There would be two PYs and \$100,000 for additional operating funding. That is what our request is for the two PYs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. Which community are these two positions based out of? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Those positions are based out of the Department of Environment's offices at headquarters. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Branch Summary. Environment. Program Management. (interpretation) Following my list of names, Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would first like to ask a question as I didn't quite understand the issue of compensation for the loss of equipment or destroyed by polar bears or by other wildlife. You said that these funds are usually depleted by the end of the year.

My question is about my community and those who tried to claim compensation, especially because our equipment is destroyed by polar bears every single year. I'm talking about a period of 30 years in particular. I have heard of only one hunter from my community who got compensated. Many others have requested compensation, but no one else has received compensation because the monies were said to be depleted.

Could you indicate which pot of money for the loss of equipment tends to get depleted? Can you give us a breakdown of what is spent for equipment compensation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. We can also produce that information to the member following his line of questioning. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to receiving that detailed information. It will allow us to see how much loss was caused by polar bears and wildlife, for example. While he is at it, can we also get to see how much is used by the Baffin, Kivalliq, and Kitikmeot regions and by which communities? I would like that included in the information package. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, we can give you the detailed information. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to move on to the business plan. I'm looking at the Inuktitut version and it's on page 161, fifth bullet. It states, "Continue monitoring of Baffin Island Caribou by collaring, health monitoring, and conducting additional surveys as necessary." What does it mean exactly? What kind of collars would be used for monitoring Baffin Island caribou? 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, Mr. Nirlungayuk. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Mr. Keyootak. What we are requesting that you are reading is for community visits and consultations where we want to conduct the studies on caribou research. We will have to visit the communities to get their permission. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What are you

planning to do? Are you just going to collar them? Is that what you are planning to do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. My Deputy Minister, Mr. Nirlungayuk, will define “collaring.” Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Keyootak for asking for clarification. Yes, you’re right. Our biologists want to know where caribou migrate. They say that we don’t have migratory information on Baffin Island caribou. They will have to go to the communities to explain their collaring program and we will have to consult with the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What does collaring mean? When they are going to collar the caribou, what kind of equipment are they putting on the collars? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the animals are being studied, they will be putting satellite collars on them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past, they put satellite collars on polar bears when they were surveying them. That used to be done to the caribou. Hunters were really dissatisfied with that. There is damage done to the bodies of animals that have collars on them and they lose all their fur on their necks. They had put a stop to that practice. When I used to be involved with the hunters and trappers organization, hunters had really disagreed with the collaring. Have they considered any alternatives in doing their studies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have also noticed that. We have stopped that practice with polar bears for that very reason. They did not like the practice of collaring. We stopped the practice of collaring polar bears for a long time.

With Baffin Island caribou, we hear different things. Regarding the survey methods, we have to know exactly what the migratory routes are of caribou. This would help with the decimation of caribou populations on Baffin Island. The communities will be consulted on this program. We will have a better idea of what the communities think of the collaring program in order to know where the caribou migrate. After the community consultations, we will have a better idea of the program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the collaring program, would they have to use helicopters? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. My Deputy Minister Nirlungayuk will respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Keyootak, for asking that question. To my knowledge, yes, they would be using helicopters. The biologists will come to the communities to explain what they're going to be doing. They will want to follow the wishes of the people. That's what they want to do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The hunters and I are really dissatisfied with the use of helicopters. Helicopters are extremely noisy. I had asked the environment minister about this before. If they're going to be using helicopters and they only have two blades, they are extremely loud. If they have three blades, they're a lot less noisy. Caribou and polar bear ears start bleeding from the loud noise. It's not from the noise of the engine; it's from the noise of the blades. Helicopters

with two blades are extremely noisy. The ears of polar bear and caribou start bleeding. Maybe they can put it under consideration to use a helicopter with more than two blades, perhaps a three-bladed propeller instead. Has that been considered? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Deputy Minister Nirlungayuk will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Mr. Keyootak for providing advice and to see if they can look for alternative ways. They will be explaining that program when they go to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank them for putting that into consideration. I have been involved in polar bear surveys and I have accompanied them quite a number of times by helicopter. They really distressed the polar bears and it's probably the same case with caribou when they're being studied with helicopters. I'll just say that as a comment and I thank them for putting that under consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. I didn't hear a question.

Following my list of names,  
(interpretation ends) Branch Summary.  
Environment. Program Management.  
Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr.  
Chairman. I know a few questions have  
been asked on the climate change  
positions and I would like to ask a few  
further questions.

In the business plan on page 154, it  
states, “The Climate Change section has  
been engaged in community-based  
adaptation initiatives...” I wonder if the  
minister can update us today on what  
types of community-based initiatives  
they’re talking about and in what  
communities they take place. Thank you,  
Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation):  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Deputy  
Minister, Mr. Nirlungayuk, will respond  
to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you  
very much. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation):  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
(interpretation ends) Thanks to the  
member for asking that question. I can  
provide more detailed information. From  
what I have been briefed on, staff have  
gone to the communities looking at what  
the local knowledge is in terms of the  
changing climate and how they are doing  
adaptation work within their  
communities. This work will continue  
on, but I can further provide more  
detailed information for the member.  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr.  
Chairman. At this time, the department  
doesn’t know which communities were  
visited in regard to climate change.  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation):  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like  
Conor at the witness table, if he can be  
escorted here. He can provide a detailed  
response. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the  
committee agree to let the official in?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation)  
Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the  
minister’s official in.

(interpretation ends) Thank you. For the  
record, Mr. Minister, please introduce  
your official.

**Hon. Johnny Mike:** Conor Mallory.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Welcome to the  
House, Mr. Mallory. Thank you. Mr.  
Rumbolt, please repeat your question so  
that the question can be heard. Mr.  
Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr.  
Chairman. I’ll ask both of my questions  
again just in case there is more  
information. I was asking about where it  
states in the business plan about “The  
Climate Change section has been  
engaged in community-based adaptation

initiatives...” I was trying to get a sense of what kind of adaptation initiatives you are referring to and in which communities it is happening in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Mallory will answer the question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Mallory.

**Mr. Mallory:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think, as the deputy minister said, we can certainly provide more information on what actual activities have taken place thus far. I know they have taken place in Cape Dorset and Arviat. There may be some other communities. I would have to double-check. We can certainly get that information, but I know we will be continuing to do more communities in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe a comment; while he is getting this information for us on what climate change has done in the past, maybe he can update us on what their plans are for the next year with this budget so that we can have a sense of the types of initiatives that these two employees are doing in our communities. I have one more question. There were a lot of questions when we had the minister in our committee concerning climate change and these two positions.

I have been the chairman of this committee now for about seven years

and I have written many letters to various ministers for explanations on their budget items. Every minister in the past has replied to me in writing within the time that was requested, except Minister Mike.

I wrote a letter on February 9 with four pages of questions asking for updates on this very subject that we are questioning today and asking him to reply before the winter sitting, which he did not do. Then on February 29, I reminded the minister with another letter asking him for the response to my original letter. I’m just wondering if the minister can explain why he refused to reply to my letter in the time that I required. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although it’s almost done in regard to the questions that were asked, at this time, according to the work we’re doing, some of the questions have not been answered yet, but they are almost complete in the response letter that I will be providing. We need to do a bit of research on some of the questions that were asked. I am not doing this on purpose. I know that it is time that I provide a response to the letter, but there is a reason why the letter of reply is incomplete. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wanted this letter even before we started discussing this budget and now we’re asking questions based on my letter. Again the minister is saying he still doesn’t have a complete



answer to all the questions that we have, and here we are passing his budget on this very subject. I would just recommend that in the future, he be more timely in responding to these letters. It would alleviate a lot of the questions that we have during this process and maybe speed up the process a bit during our committee meetings. I'll just leave it at that as a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. He left it as a comment. Following the list of names, Branch Summary. Environment Program Management. Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question regarding the environment. We live in a place with wildlife, caribou and polar bears that wander around. I was wondering what your position is in regard to calving grounds. I know for sure that you know where the calving grounds are. What are you going to do about the calving grounds? I want to ask that question. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not exactly sure about the purpose of the question. It's about calving grounds, but I want to get further clarification on what the intent of the question is. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I'm asking this question is that when the

caribou population is reducing and then they start tagging them or either way they start working on the caribou. That's why I'm asking the question. If you tag or tamper with the caribou, would that help reduce the population? I'm asking that question because I would like to find that out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Mr. Qirngnuq for his question. If I understood correctly, the caribou are surveyed annually through aerial surveys and they do an estimate through reconnaissance surveys. During the spring, they do a survey on caribou calving and also on the number of yearlings around April. We do a survey on the mortality rate of the calves. These are various ways we do surveys on the mainland. This coming spring in the Baffin region, we will do a survey and do an estimate on the mortality rate of the calves. Those are the kinds of surveys we do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand what you are saying. I'm asking a question about something my colleague

alluded to regarding the concern of declining caribou populations. It seems like the caribou population is a concern all over and I'm also concerned about it. Do you have a safer way of surveying caribou or polar bears? I would like an answer to this question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Deputy Minister Nirlungayuk will respond to that.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. I believe we all know that when they started putting collars on polar bears, there was quite a bit of opposition and concern, but the Government of Nunavut doesn't put radio collars on polar bears.

Although biologists apply to collar animals, it is not done in the Baffin region at this time, but they are requesting to do so. Other surveys are conducted, such as on the Beverly Qamanirjuaq herd, and in other jurisdictions such as Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and the Northwest Territories. The biologists have their own jurisdiction and they do collaring down there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving on to

another topic, I would like to know what your position is on using *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit* during surveys or harvesting. That will be my last question. I would also like to welcome the minister and his officials. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. If I understood your question correctly, in the Baffin region, for example, this has been the practice since there was a moratorium on caribou harvesting. We have been working closely with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board on caribou management and brainstormed with them. NWMB is responsible for determining the total allowable harvest. Every time they provide recommendations, we have to approve them, if I understood the member's question correctly.

Also with the surveys, it has to go through the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board as it is part of its authority. With the Nunavut government and taking the Baffin region caribou for example, the regional wildlife organization, the (interpretation ends) Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, (interpretation) and the impacted HTOs are involved. We also involve elders who are experts on caribou when we're collecting the information to recommend decisions.

These are the examples that we use in Nunavut and that's what occurs when we have to deal with caribou management issues. As government, we alone cannot make a decision on caribou

management. That's how the process is, if I understood the question correctly. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, (interpretation ends) Program Management. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a request for information. Minister, as you stated earlier, all the communities in the Baffin will be visited before this proceeds. My only question is: are all the communities in the Baffin region going to be visited? When are you going to do that? If the majority of communities don't want you to do that, you won't do it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to collaring animals and the survey, that's what we're going to be consulting about. There are 10 communities that are affected by the moratorium on Baffin Island. All those communities will be consulted about the proposed survey and request to do collaring of caribou.

We want to get good information about the females that produce calves because they are the only ones that multiply the population. After the calves have been born, we have to keep track of them to make sure we have the right data and to make sure that the caribou are increasing in number. The calves that were born during calving season last year are now yearlings and they are quite big now. We have to keep track of those as well.

We want to get a good understanding with the communities and to make sure everybody understands what the survey entails. If everybody understands the reasoning behind the survey and study, I think we will get more support. Caribou decrease in number by natural means on their own. An area that used to have many caribou hardly has any caribou now. Those 10 communities will be consulted. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you for answering part of my question. Ten communities in the Baffin will be visited. When do you think they will be visited?

My other question was that if the communities don't want you to do collaring, will follow their wishes or are you just going to tell the communities, "This is what we're going to do now"? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for that question. We have to do something about this. Once we introduce the project to these communities, we will be able to get their opinions on what we want to do. I know that in the coming spring, the communities will be visited for this purpose. During the consultation of communities, we want to hear how they feel about this kind of study happening and see if they will approve it. That's what we want to hear from them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you. As Mr. Keyootak was saying, the collaring is criticized a lot by people, especially with polar bears and caribou. When you hear from these 10 communities and you are told, "It's better that you don't do that," you will decide not to do it after you consult with the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): That's the reason behind the community consultations that are happening. We will follow what we hear from the communities and what they want. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Program Management. Mr. A. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Alexander Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the minister was being questioned, he said that they plan to visit the Baffin communities to consult about caribou management.

People in the Kivalliq also have concerns about caribou. Do you have any plans to meet with the (interpretation ends) Kivalliq Wildlife Management Board, KIA, (interpretation) and the local HTOs about caribou management? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Mr. Mallory will respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Mallory.

**Mr. Mallory**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had a biologist doing a round of consultations specifically about caribou in the Kivalliq last week and maybe even this week. I can't remember the dates exactly, but this month. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) This incident just happened recently. I'm just wondering if, by any chance, any of his officials from the Department of Environment has any plans in the near future to meet with the Kivalliq organizations like KIA, the Kivalliq Wildlife Management Board, and the local hunters and trappers associations from every community. There are seven communities in the Kivalliq. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Deputy Minister, Mr. Nirlungayuk, will respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Nirlungayuk.

**Mr. Nirlungayuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Mr. A. Sammurtok for that question. The wildlife boards, the communities, and

the government, as the Department of Environment, have an office in Arviat. We work with the Kivalliq Wildlife Management Board. Whenever we're invited, we go to address concerns because we need to be aware of them.

Every year, we meet with the (interpretation ends) Kivalliq Wildlife Management Board (interpretation) and we always approach them. We are open for invitations as well. With respect to the (interpretation ends) Kivalliq Wildlife Management Board, (interpretation) as Mr. Mallory said, we just met with them. We always work with the communities, not just about caribou but about other things as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Sammurtok** (interpretation): He just stated that they are able to come when they are invited. I think they want you to go down there. Many letters were tabled in the government (interpretation ends) just this week (interpretation) that have to do with wildlife from Arviat, Baker Lake, and Nauyasat and they didn't like those letters about caribou. Are you planning to visit this spring or summer? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, the Baffin survey study was just an example. I haven't heard any requests to do a survey or study in the Kivalliq. There are no requests for any studies from the communities. I have heard other concerns though, but we talked about the need to do a caribou

survey in the Baffin. We need to keep track of that and we have been asked to do that by the hunters in the Baffin.

We're open to any concerns that they want us to study. We can do that, but we haven't received any letters asking for any studies from the Kivalliq, unless there is one I haven't seen yet. That's all. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Environment. Mr. Shooyook.

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the opportunity. I am concerned about studies as well, although I understand it. This is not the first time I have talked about animals. I am talking against tradition now, but I have to do this and I have to take part in the work for caribou. Our animals around here live in quiet, silent lands and they're used to that.

As an example, the Baffinland Mary River project near Pinngurjuaq, way before I was born, it was a main caribou habitat. When the rest of the land had no more caribou, the caribou used to migrate there. After the Baffinland project started and the caribou started hearing the helicopter noises, they left the area and that's the way it is now.

Mr. Chairman, with respect to the animals, as Inuit, we really hear that we have to follow what the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board tells us to follow because they are the ones that are tasked with protection. With the knowledge that we have as Inuit today, we want Inuit to be considered more by the wildlife management boards.

I understand today that there is a good side to the studies because we don't want our animals to disappear. However, there is a "but." If we're going to be in this situation where we're going to be collaring these animals because we want knowledge, then our caribou will leave the Baffin if there's going to be that kind of work happening around here.

Mr. Chairman, I have a great concern about this and that's why I'm voicing it. I am very concerned about it now because if we don't want the caribou to decline in numbers, then the helicopter noise has to stop. If the communities that you are consulting with are concerned about the helicopter noise, then you have to do what they say. I am very concerned about this. I don't want the animals to be bothered by collaring.

With the animals that you are going to be studying, I would like you do surveys by fixed-wing aircraft and not by helicopters. I don't think you go to very low altitudes and I don't mind that as much. I'm expressing my concern and also support for you. If you follow what the Inuit believe in, then we can realistically protect our animals. This is basically information for you, but information is always useful.

If the Inuit are concerned and they don't want your department to do collaring, would you be able to agree to that or are you going to push for collaring? Please let me know that if the communities don't want you collaring, then you won't do so. Even if they don't want you to collar them, will you end up collaring them anyways? That's what I would like to know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my colleague for voicing his concern. It's going to be the same response that I gave to Mr. Enook. We're going to do a consultation tour. We will be talking to the communities about our department's request to collar caribou. If they don't want it, then we won't go ahead. That's why we are going to consult the communities. We will be going to the 10 communities. Once we conclude the tour, we will have to decide what we're going to be doing. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Environment. Program Management. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$22,637,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Back to page I-3. Department Summary. Environment. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$27,045,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Environment?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Mike, brief closing comments. Minister Mike.

>> *Laughter*

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to thank everyone here. It seems that it was a little bit difficult, but the environment is of importance to us. We have an abundance of wildlife, both marine and terrestrial and in lakes. We have a variety of species that could be economically viable. We want to make sure that they're managed properly.

I would like to thank you all. I thank you all for approving our budget and for your understanding and support. Thank you.

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

(interpretation ends) We will now proceed to the clause-by-clause review of Bill 13. I ask all members to go to Bill 13 in your legislation binder.

Does everyone have their binders? Is everyone ready?

**An Hon. Member:** Yes.

**Chairman:** Bill 13, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017*. Clause 1. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 2. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 3. Agreed? Mr. Peterson.

**Committee Motion 004 – 4(3):  
Appropriation (Operations &  
Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that subsection 3(2) be amended by striking out “\$1,538,015,000” and replacing it with “\$1,538,001,000.” Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Go to Schedule on page 2 in English and page 3 in Inuktitut.

The motion is in order. Before we proceed with debate on the motion, I have a few comments to make as to procedures.

One, every member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total time of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply, which closes the debate.

To the motion. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're deleting \$14,000 from the Department of Education as per earlier voting in Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** To the motion. All those in favour, please raise your hand. All those opposed. All those abstaining. The motion is carried. Mr. Peterson.

**Committee Motion 005 – 4(3):  
Appropriation (Operations &  
Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

It's making a lot of work here for us, but moving on to the Schedule, I move that the Schedule to the bill be amended by:

- (a) striking out "\$205,479,000" in Item 7, Education, and replacing it with "\$205,465,000";
- (b) striking out "\$1,538,015,000" after "Total Operations and Maintenance" and replacing it with "\$1,538,001,000"; and
- (c) striking out "\$1,538,015,000" after "Total Appropriation" and replacing it with "\$1,538,001,000."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. All those abstaining. The motion is carried. Thank you.

Clause 3 as amended. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 4. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 5. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 6. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree to Bill 13 as amended?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 13 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to report progress at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

**Speaker:** Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mikkungwak.

#### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 13 and would like to report that Bill 13 is immediately ready for third reading as amended and that two committee motions were adopted. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you. (interpretation ends) There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Mapsalak. The motion is in order. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.



Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Item 21: Third Reading of Bills**

**Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 – Third Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that Bill 13, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017*, be read for the third time as amended. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 13, as amended, is ready for assent.

Bills 10, 11, 12... . Not those? (interpretation) I'm sorry.

(interpretation ends) Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk:** Sorry, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for March 16:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions

8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
  - Motion 24 – 4(3)
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 15
  - 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) In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 16 – 4(3), this House stands adjourned until Wednesday, March 16, at 10:00 a.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 20:00*

