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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. George Qulaut
(Amittuq)

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(Gjoa Haven)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. George Kuksuk
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
*Minister of Culture and Heritage;
Minister of Languages; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness*

Hon. Paul Quassa
(Aggu)
Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

Pat Angnakak
(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy; Minister of Health; Minister responsible for the Status of Women; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention

Hon. Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Environment; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet South)

Tom Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

Joe Enook
(Tununiq)
Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

Simeon Mikkungwak
(Baker Lake)
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
Friday, June 3, 2016**

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk, Mr. Joe Enook, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasié, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. George Kuksuk, 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 9:01*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>> *Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. My fellow Nunavummiut, members, ministers, and (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) welcome to the House.

Ministers' Statements. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 120 – 4(3):
Emergency Management**

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to share information on emergency management

in Nunavut.

I recently attended meetings of the federal-provincial-territorial ministers responsible for emergency management to discuss strategies for renewing the National Emergency Management Framework. This was during Emergency Preparedness Week in early May, when the fires in Fort McMurray were burning out of control. What stood out in my mind was that though there is no way to predict when an emergency might happen, being prepared can be one of the best ways to manage an emergency situation.

The CGS Emergency Management Organization provides assistance to Nunavut communities in creating their own emergency preparedness plans. This division takes direction from the federal-provincial-territorial task force to make plans for emergency preparedness in Nunavut that make sense at the community level.

Mr. Speaker, being prepared for emergencies is everyone's responsibility. As individuals, we need to ask, "Are Nunavummiut taking measures to be prepared?" As leaders in our communities, we need to be proactive and we need to be good role models to demonstrate that emergency management is important in building a culture of safety in Nunavut. The bottom line is that all Nunavummiut are responsible for emergency management. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Minister's Statement 121 – 4(3):
Residential School Awareness
Workshops**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning,
my colleagues and fellow residents of
Igloolik.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I
would like speak to my fellow members
about valuable workshops recently
delivered in Iqaluit dealing with the
history and legacy of residential schools.

One of the calls to action in the Truth
and Reconciliation Commission's final
report was for all levels of government
to provide awareness and sensitivity
training for all civil servants on the
history and impact of residential
schools.

Mr. Speaker, our education staff adapted
and designed a one-day workshop
suitable for Nunavut civil servants based
on residential schools awareness training
developed by the Government of the
Northwest Territories for its
employees. Workshops were held on
May 4 and 5 involving education staff
and then senior government officials.

Mr. Speaker, I and Peter Irniq, as
residential school survivors, provided
participants in the workshops with
testimonials of our experiences at
residential school. It is important to
provide education on the legacy of
residential schools. This workshop will
be adapted to be included in the new
teacher orientation workshops we are
developing so that all new teaching staff
will have knowledge and sensitivity
regarding this issue.

Mr. Speaker, we need to support
understanding and reconciliation on the
legacy of residential schools. My
department will be developing a "train
the trainer" kit to help other departments
potentially offer a similar workshop to
their own staff so that all public servants
across Nunavut will have access to this
workshop, fulfilling our obligation to the
Truth and Reconciliation Commission's
calls to action. (interpretation) Thank
you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Ministers' Statements. Member of
Environment, Mr. Johnny Mike.

**Minister's Statement 122 – 4(3): Polar
Bear – CITES Update**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation):
Thank you. Good morning,
Nunavummiut and fellow residents of
Pangnirtung.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share
encouraging news about our efforts to
preserve international trade in polar bear
products from Nunavut. In April 2016,
the United States Fish and Wildlife
Service decided not to submit a proposal
to have polar bears up-listed to
Appendix I under the Convention on
International Trade in Endangered
Species (CITES) of Wild Flora and
Fauna. This is the first time since 2007
that polar bears will not be considered
for up-listing and is due in large part to
our tireless work to highlight the
effectiveness of Nunavut's polar bear
management system.

Mr. Speaker, up-listing polar bears to
Appendix I would effectively end the

export of polar bear products from Canada. Naturally, we remain opposed to such trade restrictions because they have no rational basis. Instead, polar bear populations in Nunavut have continued to thrive since the foundations of our management system were first introduced nearly 30 years ago.

Throughout this time, as most polar bear populations have increased in number, Inuit have continued to harvest bears at a sustainable level, a tradition that dates back millennia and one that continues to provide economic benefits for many Nunavummiut.

Over the past several years, the Department of Environment, along with our wildlife co-management partners, has worked hard to engage and educate organizations about Nunavut's successful polar bear management system. Thankfully, our efforts have paid off. It appears that the US government now understands what we in Canada have known all along. The sustainability of Canada's polar bear populations is not threatened by trade.

Mr. Speaker, I would to take this opportunity to thank our numerous co-management partners for helping us achieve this important accomplishment. Together, we have demonstrated that Nunavut is a world leader in polar bear conservation and that Inuit continue to harvest polar bears at a sustainable level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Family Services, Mr. George Kuksuk.

Minister's Statement 123 – 4(3): Getting Ready for Employment and Training

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my fellow Nunavummiut and colleagues.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share that the Department of Family Services has now completed the second delivery of the G.R.E.A.T. employment and training program. Fifty individuals graduated this winter session, 40 of whom received the attendance incentive and 19 of whom have already secured employment. Our career development officers continue to support participants as they seek employment or other training opportunities.

The G.R.E.A.T. program is unique in its design, as it models a successful collaboration between the Income Assistance and Career Development divisions, with delivery by our key partner, Nunavut Arctic College. The job readiness program provides our income assistance clients with the tools and mentorship they need to be successful in today's labour force.

Mr. Speaker, we have been impressed by the evaluation of the program to date: clients are moving off income assistance and entering the workforce; and self-esteem and self-confidence are increasing. Classroom experiences indicate that the G.R.E.A.T. program is motivating people to identify what interests them and what skills they would like to develop to lead them to fulfilling employment.

Mr. Speaker, we invited feedback from all involved and have positively responded by extending the program by an additional two weeks, with the inclusion of a basic computer literacy course. We are excited to expand the program to more communities this fall. More and more, we learn that participants are keen to enter the workforce, further their education, and contribute to the vitality of their families and communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Minister of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Hickes.

Minister's Statement 124 – 4(3): QEC Wins Health and Safety Award for Fifth Consecutive Year

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure to announce that for the fifth consecutive year, the Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC) has been presented with the Territorial North American Occupational Safety and Health, or NAOSH, award by the Canadian Society of Safety Engineers and the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission.

Given to a Nunavut employer with 51 workers or more, this award celebrates QEC's efforts and active participation during NAOSH Week 2015. This annual event fosters collaboration among employers, employees, and stakeholders to raise awareness about injury and illness prevention in the workplace.

Mr. Speaker, to win this award, QEC organized a number of engaging activities, which included a quiz on the new *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations* and first aid training. As part of QEC's efforts to make safety a habit beyond the workplace and to make safety part of Nunavummiut's daily lives, drivers were invited to join QEC in its pledge to end distracted driving in Nunavut.

For this year's NAOSH Week, QEC organized a speaking tour and invited Mike Rousselle, a power lineman who lost his left arm and right leg in a workplace accident. Mike shared his life-changing story of his journey to recovery and the importance of following health and safety procedures.

Mr. Speaker, QEC's commitment to promoting a broad culture of safety and providing a healthy and safe work environment for its employees and customers reflects its continued dedication and involvement to this event which spans Canada, the US, and Mexico.

I commend QEC's effort and energy to continuously raise the bar on its NAOSH Week activities by inspiring and informing its employees and by engaging the general public in the promotion of health and safety in the workplace and beyond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 125 – 4(3):
Tobacco and Smoke-free QGH
Grounds**

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to take this opportunity to bring awareness and to update my colleagues of the department's continued efforts towards reducing the rate of tobacco use among Nunavummiut.

I am pleased to announce that tobacco cessation in Nunavut will be extending to the Qikiqtani General Hospital. On June 30, 2016, the Tobacco and Smoke-free Hospital Grounds initiative comes into effect.

The Tobacco and Smoke-free Hospital Grounds initiative is about where you smoke. It is about keeping children, patients, visitors, and staff from being exposed to the harmful effects of second-hand smoke.

This initiative also enforces the *Tobacco Control Act*, which prohibits smoking within three metres from entrances, exits, and vents of public buildings and 15 metres from school buildings.

Mr. Speaker, the International Agency for Research on Cancer has found that implementing this type of an initiative in a hospital setting encourages smoking cessation and heightens the message that smoking is a health risk.

Beginning on June 30, the Qikiqtani General Hospital will provide two designated smoking areas. We know this program is not easy for those who smoke. The Tobacco Reduction Program will also provide educational opportunities and encourage tobacco

cessation using a variety of supports. Programming such as nicotine replacement therapy and cessation counselling by cessation-trained health care professionals will be available to both patients and staff.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that our health care environment is safe and comfortable for all at QGH. It aligns with the goals as set out in the *Nunavut Tobacco Reduction Framework for Action* (2011-16) and provides our first step towards health centres that are tobacco and smoke-free. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Paul Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 126 – 4(3):
Nunavut Teacher Education
Program**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in the House today to announce that the Nunavut Teacher Education Program has just completed a five-year program of studies in the community of Hall Beach.

The Nunavut Teacher Education Program, in partnership with the University of Regina, offers a campus and community-based program that prepares Nunavummiut to become classroom teachers in Nunavut schools. The program has a strong focus on practice and the theory learned in courses is applied in classroom situations through observation and

teaching.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Teacher Education Program is an example of making professional education more accessible in the Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtani regions and communities throughout Nunavut because we desperately need Inuktitut-speaking teachers.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to announce that five students have successfully completed the courses that will lead to a Bachelor of Education Degree that will be awarded by the University of Regina. They will now be eligible to apply for teaching positions in their community or elsewhere.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the new teachers because we will have more teachers in our schools this coming school year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 258 – 4(3): Inaccurate Article in Nunatsiq News

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is becoming quite scenic once again with spring arriving and becoming more joyous in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I generally do not refer to any news articles in the House.

However, I just read a rather embarrassing article in *Nunatsiq News* posted by this person I have never seen or met with, but he was apparently covering the Legislative Assembly and writing articles for the paper.

It states that I was asking questions to the Premier and later, sitting behind the Premier and that this occurred the day before or yesterday. That is very upsetting to read in light of our procedures. As we all know, most of us leave the House occasionally during sessions when required and I was in the act of departing the House when the minister was answering a question.

As the minister was standing during this episode and as a matter of courtesy, I didn't want to place myself in the field of vision of the camera, so I sat briefly while the response was televised. This is part of our procedural practices here in the House. The reporter never bothered to ask me about it, yet they wrote about that in the newspaper. How unprofessional and embarrassing.

An Hon. Member: Shame, shame!

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): That is why I now consider *Nunatsiq News* in the category of tabloids, devoid of truthful news. I just want to explain to my colleagues that I had no ulterior motive or intention there; I was just following normal procedure as a Member of this House.

When attempts to smear your reputation are based on falsehood, it is not believable.

I want my constituents to know that I am dedicated to my role here. When I am

the subject of an erroneous interpretative assessment, it has no basis in truth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 259 – 4(3): 2016
Clyde River High School
Graduates**

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express pride in and to congratulate the Clyde River high school graduates. The graduating students are:

Joy Angutirjuaq;
Russell Angutirjuaq;
Colleen Joanasié;
Melissa Palluq;
Kolola Kolola;
Verna Palluq; and
Danny Jr. Qajaaq.

These students are completing their studies this year and I wanted to voice my pride in their accomplishment and to have my colleagues share in this celebration.

The students who have graduated are free to explore post-secondary educational opportunities and it provides them with choices. I want to express my pride in them this year, as they now have an opportunity to advance their education upon completion of their schooling locally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 260 – 4(3):
Congratulations to NAC Students**

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the students at Nunavut Arctic College who successfully completed their first year of the office administration course.

Mr. Speaker, it is always very heartening to see individuals working hard to improve their level of skill and education and to increase their opportunities for employment and future careers.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate:

Ami Pattunguyak;
Kilivaak Tookoome;
Jenny Tapatai;
Charlotte Pupik;
Hector Duval;
Rachael Aupaluktuq;
Kim Aupaluktuq; and
Melody Anguhadluq.

I encourage these students to continue with their studies and to continue to progress along the path of lifelong learning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 261 – 4(3):
Kimmirut's First Hockey Camp**

Mr. Joanasic (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues and Nunavummiut who are listening to the proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, in March of this year, Kimmirut's Qaqqalik School students were very excited to attend a hockey camp for the very first time in their home community. Close to 100 young kids laced up at the Tasilik Arena to play hockey.

Mr. Speaker, Julie Matthews and her husband, Robert Matthews, have been teaching music at the Qaqqalik School for the past three years. They wanted to reach out and help lift the community up by offering something that would have a positive impact for the kids at the school. Kimmirut is very fortunate that they made this event possible.

Mr. Speaker, the Penobsquis Baptist Church in New Brunswick raised enough donations to be able to send four coaches to Kimmirut as well as complete sets of hockey equipment for the kids. I would like to recognize the coaches. They are Bob Parlee, Greg Keith, Steve Gillies, Dave Walker, and Rev. Neville Gosman.

Other organizers, such as the St. Paul's Anglican Church in Kimmirut, helped to organize the event and I would like to recognize them as well. First Air assisted with airfare and freight costs and the Hamlet of Kimmirut supplied accommodations and ice time at the Tasilik Arena.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the people who put such hard work into making this event happen. They certainly succeeded in making the kids very happy and putting big smiles on their faces.

Mr. Speaker, the organizers are hoping that this won't be the last hockey camp for the kids in Kimmirut and I hope so too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 262 – 4(3):
Encouraging Summer Student
Employment**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At least spring has arrived and many activities will be forthcoming that will occupy our thoughts, particularly those of our students who will be graduating from high schools, and we anticipate many references as the school year closes.

Nonetheless, programs are available for graduating students who can work in the summer or who want employment skills training as the government and hamlets use the program to offer (interpretation ends) student summer jobs (interpretation) to students who graduate or are in other courses.

After spending the winter in classes, I encourage our youth to explore job opportunities in our hamlets everywhere. They can submit an application form, which means a fill form in Inuktitut, but not really completely full. This includes

questionnaires they can fill out. I would urge our youth who live in Nunavut to apply and to get pre-employment training during the summer months. I encourage all students to do so.

Further, with respect to our younger children who will be commencing school in the new school year, they also need to be checked by the health centre to ensure they have no medical issues. I further encourage parents to have their school-aged children who will start school to have them checked up at the health centres. This is in keeping with parental responsibilities to have their children checked prior to starting school. I again urge Nunavummiut to complete this work and ask my colleagues to promote this work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 263 – 4(3): 2016
Kugaaruk Graduates of NTEP**

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to acknowledge the students in the four-year program, I wish to be understood that the students are taking the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. They have completed their first year and I am proud of their accomplishment.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to extend my congratulations to Kugaaruk's 2016 graduates of Nunavut Arctic College's Teacher Education Program.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that programs such as NTEP continue to be

made available in our communities. Nunavut Arctic College courses such as the Nunavut Teacher Education Program provide opportunities to our people to earn the qualification that will enable them to pursue careers in their home communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is also important that Nunavut's education system be delivered by those who are most impacted by its outcomes. The success of our children, our children's children, and the future of our territory as a whole depends on a strong education system that is delivered by dedicated professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend Amanda Kogvik, Cynthia Nirlungayuk, Georgina Ningark, Gwendolin Ningark, Wendy Ningark, Larry Nalungiaq, Tony Immingark, Roseanne Amautinaaq, Rosemary Apsaktaun, Kelsey Apsaktaun, Judy Aglukkaq, and Lucy Qayaqsaq for their success in completing the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

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

I would like to recognize a fellow resident of Amittuq from Hall Beach and my Executive Assistant, Connie Kanayuk-Arvaluk. Welcome to the gallery.

>> *Applause*

Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 340 – 4(3): Summer Courses at Nunatta Campus

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Good morning. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, a number of constituents have raised the issue of not being able to pursue adult education courses during the summer months. I note that the Nunatta Campus of Nunavut Arctic College employs security and maintenance personnel during the summer, but there is no teaching staff. Other jurisdictions across Canada deliver college-level courses during the summer.

Can the minister explain why Nunavut Arctic College does not deliver any courses over the summer months? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): I'm sorry. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Arctic College, Mr. Paul Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. We still haven't implemented summer courses, but there are other avenues we can consider. I want my colleague to know that we're looking at different options and what other strategies we can use. This is very good news and we will be

looking into it as Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the response. The willingness to be able to look at options is always a great thing to go forward in various issues that have been raised.

Mr. Speaker, having the college open during the summer months would be a great opportunity for short summer courses as well for individuals, for example, upgrading to meet the criteria for courses in the fall. It could even be accessed by high school students who may need to pick up a couple of credits to graduate.

Can the minister explain what consideration, if any, has been given to offering short summer courses for students who wish to upgrade in preparation for further studies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As per my earlier comments on this matter, this is quite good to hear about. I would like to hear other suggestions on how more beneficial programs can accrue to the communities in this area. However, other organizations throughout Nunavut also utilize the community learning centres during the summer months. As an example, if any prospecting or mining companies have training programs or

other programs that they wish to offer, then the community learning centres are available. As per my earlier comments, sometimes they are also used during the summertime. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 341 – 4(3): Baffin Island
Caribou Management**

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, I think it was two days ago that I asked about caribou and I have yet to receive a response as to how many years the limited caribou harvesting practice would be in effect. Would it end this year? I was trying to ask about whether it was a temporary measure or if the number of years had been set for a caribou quota system. Can you explain how long this quota system will last? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. Not enough information is currently available for the actual timeframe. As the population surveys have just commenced, we are now starting to work on the issues. What I can state is that the quota for 250 caribou on Baffin Island will continue for the time being while the population surveys are ongoing. The quota of 250 caribou will depend on the results of the population surveys and management

decisions will be forthcoming as the results come in. There are still information gaps on caribou patterns on Baffin Island. The quota of 250 caribou will continue for the time being until more information is available to enact changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for explaining that to me. Indeed, caribou harvesting requires careful consideration by people on Baffin Island, as residents who are not adjacent to the herds have to travel long distances, with serious expenses payable, such as from Arctic Bay towards the mainland around Naujaat. Our hunters were harvesting caribou near that community and it causes consternation amongst our hunters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the minister this question: how many years are scheduled for the surveys? Has the department concluded the timeframe for these surveys? If there was a decision made, can you explain the process for how long the surveys have to continue before the quota system can be changed?

It is currently impossible to ascertain the actual length of this system when your only response is that the population surveys are continuing and that the department has not made a decision. How many years will the surveys continue? Have you been briefed on the potential length of the surveys? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The management issues surrounding caribou on Baffin Island, as I indicated earlier, require further population surveys. The need to conduct other population surveys was part of the 250-tag allocation decision. The need for population surveys extends to other species and surveys occur outside of Baffin Island every number of years for caribou and other species. The population survey requirement will continue for the foreseeable future for Baffin Island caribou.

Further, if Inuit wish to go caribou hunting outside of Baffin Island, they have the right to do so. At least we have that choice if we wish to pursue it. I personally have exercised that right even before the caribou moratorium came into effect where I went hunting outside of Baffin Island. Inuit have that choice if they wish, as per the land claims agreement.

With respect to caribou management on Baffin Island, as I stated earlier, the 250 tags were decided upon agreement by this government and it will be renewed annually until survey result information to increase the tags comes to our attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the minister for his response. Indeed, caribou harvesting is a matter

close to many people's hearts and some Inuit are really yearning for caribou meat, at least us elders. We have longed for caribou meat on Baffin Island for several years now.

To return to the subject I mentioned before when commenting on your plans, I'm wondering if it's impossible to include what I suggested about adding barren cows that are past their calving years to the tags. Is it possible to add old, barren cows to the tags during the moratorium and can you set aside tags out of the 250 towards this idea without adding more tags? I would like to see barren cows added to this list out of the 250 tags so that we can harvest non-calving animals.

Has that been completely ignored in management plans, either by NWMB or in your role as the Minister of Environment? What are your goals in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Actually, this and other types of issues require many discussions. However, this issue recently became a focal point with concerns about the 250 male only tags, which we implemented last year. Further, we have started to get feedback from people about their concerns related to this male-specific harvesting strategy.

Now, the organizations that manage wildlife in the Baffin region have debated this issue. If they or the public hold real concerns about the process, they should submit their concerns through their HTOs. Hunters in the

Baffin region who go caribou hunting can all share the same information and they can work through their local bodies and furthermore, in the Baffin region, through their regional wildlife management organization.

The Nunavut government will not ignore any concerns expressed and the information we receive will result in deliberations on the issue. Now, what my colleague alluded to was already a matter I made a decision on and we will consider that. There are other bodies, such as Nunavut Tunngavik or the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, that also represent Inuit and they have an obvious role in this process. In addition, our elders and hunters with expertise will obviously be included in this process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 342 – 4(3): Status of Rankin Inlet Mental Health Transition Home

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

Mr. Speaker, as the minister will recall, in our last sitting, I asked the minister about the status of an assessment that was conducted by the Department of CGS on the renovations required at the children's group home in Rankin Inlet. The minister's response, which was tabled earlier this week, indicated that the assessment was expected to be completed by April 2016.

Can the minister confirm whether or not the assessment now has been completed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure exactly whether he's talking about the boarding home or the building that's geared for mental health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member, Mr. Alexander, please clarify which building you're asking about.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the minister will recall, I was asking questions on March 16, 2016 and the response was concerning the mental health facility that used to be the old children's group home. In her response, she indicated that the assessment was expected to be completed by April 2016. Now I'm asking the minister to confirm whether or not the assessment has now been completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question. The Department of CGS informed us that if the facility in Rankin Inlet will be geared towards people with mental health issues, it will require many renovations and it is going to be very expensive. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The minister's response to my question also indicated that the Department of CGS will evaluate the assessment, which was to have been completed in April, and provide a recommendation as to whether to proceed with the renovation or build a new facility. Can the minister provide an update on what recommendation was made by the Department of CGS with respect to renovating or building a new facility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the Department of CGS has submitted their recommendation to the Department of Health that construction of a new facility is the better option because it would cost roughly the same as renovating the existing facility. It would be more feasible to construct a new facility due to the high costs of renovations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that there are competing priorities for developing infrastructure across Nunavut. Given the results of the assessment done by CGS, will the minister reconsider the plan to convert the Rankin Inlet Children's

Group Home into a mental health transition home and convert it into an elders facility instead? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his continued passion on this matter. As per my earlier statement, it would be far too costly to renovate the facility. It only has seven rooms to renovate, but the costs equal the construction of a new facility. Currently, deliberations are ongoing as to the possible future uses of this facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 343 – 4(3): Status of New Cape Dorset Power Plant

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

First of all, I would like to thank him for visiting the community of Cape Dorset early last month and meeting with specifically the students at Peter Pitseolak High.

On February 26, the minister informed the House that QEC had recently completed its geotechnical study regarding the new power plant for Cape Dorset. At that time, he also indicated that QEC was getting ready to, and I quote, "negotiate the land lease for the

established site location with the Hamlet of Cape Dorset and initiate construction as soon as possible.”

Can the minister update me today on where things stand regarding the new power plant for Cape Dorset? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member first for the invitation to attend his community and speak to those students at the Sam Pudlat School. It was a very fun experience for me and I hope the kids enjoyed the participation of having Mr. Joanasie and I attend their class.

With regard to the power plant development schedule in Cape Dorset, like I had mentioned in the winter sitting, the geotechnical study has been completed. We’re working right now with our engineering department along with the contractor to finalize the plans.

The Hamlet of Cape Dorset has provided a section of lots that are available to be able to use for the plant development. We’re just finalizing our feasibility study on identifying which of those lots will be the best footprint to maximize the use for the facility itself. That report will be due next month, actually in July. I’ll have a clearer idea of the construction timeline at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the response. When the Premier visited Cape Dorset last fall, one of the concerns that were raised by the community was that the existing generator in the community is at capacity and cannot support additional housing.

I recognize that NHC makes its housing construction decisions based on its own methodology, but the community does not want to be in a position where no new housing can be even considered until the new power plant is up and running.

Can the minister indicate what options QEC has to supplement power generation capacity in the community until the new plant is operational? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question to highlight that issue. After our meetings with the LHO in Cape Dorset and the mayor, when I got back to town, that was one of the first things I looked into to make sure that the generation needs met any future construction that is being planned for the community. There are a couple of commercial construction projects with the school upcoming and the cultural centre that’s going to be... . I believe the piles are going to be started this summer in addition to the power plant being built in the very near future.

I wanted to make sure that the community’s needs were able to be met with the existing power and it was

confirmed to me that there was some additional generation brought into the community in 2013 to assist with the loads. I have been assured that power generation is not an immediate issue to delay any potential construction for housing in Cape Dorset. It is something that I have just recently communicated to my officials at the Nunavut Housing Corporation. We will be adding Cape Dorset into the potential list for allocation of housing when we do our allocation assessments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 344 – 4(3): Response to Resolution Passed at Kitikmeot Mayors’ Forum

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my colleagues and also to the community of Gjoa Haven.

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

One of the resolutions that were passed during the Kitikmeot Mayors’ Forum that was held in April called on the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to ensure that all airport terminal buildings in the Kitikmeot are accessible to the disabled. Can the minister confirm if her department has responded to this resolution? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for bringing up that issue. The documents were recently brought to our attention last week and we didn’t receive them prior to that. Nonetheless, what I can state here is that if anything was obviously missing, then the language related to the entry and exit from aircraft currently reflects that it is not present now to allow access for wheelchairs. If there were no access ramps available, then we can work on resolving the lack of access. We are happy to receive any information in this area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. She partly answered my second question. Has the minister’s department conducted an assessment on the five airport terminal buildings in the Kitikmeot to determine the extent to which they are fully accessible to the disabled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just received the information on this issue from my officials and I will discuss it with them to carefully assess whether or not access points are available at the back end of the terminals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last question is on the funding. Can the minister indicate how much capital funding her department has budgeted to perform improvements on airport terminal buildings to ensure that they are accessible to the disabled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't elaborate in detail because we're just now planning for the capital estimates for this coming fall, but I will provide the information as soon as I get it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 345 – 4(3): Family Resource Position in Sanikiluaq

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

Mr. Speaker, my questions today are directed to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to note that a new position for a family resource worker would be allocated to the community of Sanikiluaq. As a non-decentralized community, every new job provides an important employment opportunity for residents. However, the long delays in filling these positions and making them operational can be difficult and time-consuming.

Can the minister provide an update on whether his department has been working with the Department of Community and Government Services to ensure that there is adequate office space for these newly created positions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Mr. George Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, with respect to the question posed by the member yesterday, I was unable to respond, but I can provide the details now.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to the issues the member raised, yes, the community of Sanikiluaq will get new positions that have been opened. The funding for the positions was approved and Sanikiluaq is among the listed communities in line for a new social worker. They will work with the Department of Family Services.

Further, at this time, this process is moving forward with work undertaken by our departmental staff and other departments, such as the Department of Finance, to ensure that this process moves forward successfully. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is important that when new positions are added to the staff listing, the other requirements for these individuals to be able to do their job will also be considered. Can the minister provide

further details on what steps have been taken to make sure that office space is available for the new family resource worker in Sanikiluaq, specifically when was the request for office space submitted to Community and Government Services? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. With respect to this particular matter of office space, I don't have the details on the status, as it has not been part of my briefings. However, we will continue dealing with this issue, as they are under this responsibility, and I have no doubt that the office will be established. Nonetheless, I can look into the matter and work with CGS to see where the project is at and, alternatively, to assess if any concerns exist.

What I can state currently is that this is moving forward and Sanikiluaq is included in the list of positions working with the Department of Family Services. The details are being looked after, but the approval was submitted and I have no doubt that this position will be filled. That is what I can relay to the member.

Now, with respect to the actual question the member raised about the location of the office, I can respond to it at a later date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated earlier, the ongoing delays

in bringing jobs online, whether it's delays in the staffing process or delays due to lack of office space, can be very frustrating for potential employees and the community as a whole.

I have been bringing the lack of office space for my community to the government's attention for the past seven or eight years. It has been demonstrated by me and also by Community and Government Services' visits and studies conducted by Community and Government Services that Sanikiluaq is lacking office space. I would even go as far to say that the GN is no closer today to adding office space in Sanikiluaq than it was seven or eight years ago.

Can the minister clarify whether the new family resource worker position in Sanikiluaq will be kept on hold until a designated office space has been identified? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member. Mr. Speaker, as per my earlier statement, seven communities were chosen for the new position to work with the Department of Family Services and the communities. We have identified Sanikiluaq as one of the communities that will be part of this initiative.

With regard to the member's question about whether the position should have been put on hold due to the lack of office space or the identification of office space, as per my earlier statements, I

have no doubt that office space will be procured. However, I don't have the information on whether his community has concerns about office space availability. I will look into this matter and respond once I have the information handy and provide it to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 346 – 4(3): Air
Transportation Sector**

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

Earlier this week, the minister tabled her department's submission to the *Canada Transportation Act* Review Panel and I thank her for doing so.

In its submission, the department recommended that all Nunavut airports be, and I quote, "upgraded to the GPS Instrument Approach Procedure that is appropriate for each individual airport." This is an issue that I have raised on many occasions in relation to Baker Lake's airport.

Can the minister describe how her department is currently working with federal authorities to prioritize airport upgrades in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question. What I can state to my colleague about the Department of Economic Development and Transportation involvement in the (interpretation ends) Northern Air Transportation Association 2016 (interpretation) AGM is that they participated.

Further, they were able to have meaningful discussions when resolution drafting took place and the need for this equipment in the Arctic regions. We have continued to work with our partners on these issues. As well, I tabled the document outlining the report the member alluded to, the (interpretation ends) CTA review panel (interpretation) report for 2015. They visited Iqaluit that year and many issues were discussed at that meeting that resurfaced in the submission.

What I can relay to the members is that we also wrote to the Minister of Transportation and he sent his response stating a committee would be struck, which I am very pleased to notify my colleagues. The Arctic region will be the primary focus of this committee and we are partially expecting their arrival, although it hasn't been finalized, to Iqaluit this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think she's really on par this morning.

>> *Laughter*

In its submission, the department recommended an expansion of the funding for the Transport Canada Airport Capital Assistance Program, as the minister indicated, and a “dedicated ‘carve-out’ for northern jurisdictions.” This issue was also identified at the recent annual general meeting of the Northern Air Transport Association. When will the minister be meeting face to face with the federal Minister of Transport to discuss this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. As I said in March of this year, I replied to the federal minister to commend him on the release of the report and highlight the importance of many of the report’s recommendations, including the establishment of a new northern airport capital assistance program.

I also asked in my correspondence for a meeting to further discuss the report’s findings. I am glad to say that they will have a focus on the north and this could provide an opportunity to bring forward some of the issues raised in the NATA resolutions. I understand preparations for a possible summer meeting here in Iqaluit are now being discussed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In its submission to the *Canada Transportation Act* Review Panel, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation recommended that there be, and I quote, a “formal monitoring process available to establish economic consequences of airline code share and/or other market partnerships.” Can the minister describe how she envisions this responsibility being shared between the federal and territorial governments? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’m not sure I understood the question fully, but I can say that we have been participating in these meetings and participating at the federal-territorial level. Nunavut’s presentation of this report is comprised of six sections: land and people; air system; marine system; highway system; and for the panel’s consideration, and so forth. I think it’s good news that they are thinking of coming here this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 347 – 4(3): Assessing Power Rates

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

We occasionally hear from homeowners that they get a suddenly increased bill

and they can never get an explanation as to why the power bill suddenly increased. Can the minister explain where these homeowners can turn to for a proper explanation of the increases in their power rates and how they can lower their bill in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question and it gives me an opportunity to highlight the process that is involved. I am only aware of a couple of instances that people's power bills did spike. There have been some cases of some electrical issues with residents. There is possibility of different usage that some people don't anticipate. Sometimes with those little heaters that people use under their desks, they don't realize how much power they actually draw. It is a possibility that it has happened in the past where there is a faulty meter.

I do want to commend the customer service group that do work at QEC. They work very hard to make sure that the customer has a clear explanation on why the bill has increased or rectify the problem and put a fair price in front of the consumer. I just wanted to thank the member for giving me the opportunity to highlight the good work that they do and the process to contact the customer service office and they will work through any issues that need to be dealt with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister. I checked online as to where people can turn to if they have concerns about their monthly bill. However, when I looked online in the payments section, there is no information on where you can go if you have a suddenly high power bill. I would like to know if that information could be made available online. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we develop a website, we try and put forth as much information as possible, but to deal with every potential occurrence that could occur to include that within a website could be very labour-intensive and costly to maintain.

I do want to reinforce that people can call the customer service line at 1-866-710-4200 or email at customerservice@qec.nu.ca for any questions that may arise with their billing system or any other issues that they feel QEC should be made aware of. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 348 – 4(3): Nursing Services in Pond Inlet

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues will be well aware, the community of Pond Inlet has faced some challenges recently with the unfortunate spread of a communicable disease, that is, whooping cough.

Before I continue, I would like to give a very big thank you to the nurses in the health centre in our community. They tirelessly help patients in our community. We thank all the nurses, nurse aides and interpreters in Nunavut.

While it is certainly understandable that dealing with this situation has put sudden and additional demands on our nursing staff, it also means that community residents with other pressing health issues feel pushed aside as services are prioritized.

My first question is: can the minister provide an update on what additional services and resources have been provided to the Pond Inlet Nursing Station in recent weeks as staff and community members deal with the recent health situation in the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for mentioning the excellent services during the recent hardship they just experienced.

What I want to explain is that there are now fewer cases of people with symptoms. Whooping cough causes coughing internally, particularly in smaller patients, called (interpretation ends) pertussis (interpretation) in scientific terms. It was confirmed in Pond Inlet. As well, there was a suspected case here in Iqaluit, but after results came in, it turned out not to be whooping cough. In the same week, another result should be coming in for tests done earlier.

Our department sent an extra nurse to Pond Inlet to provide assistance on the extra work while dealing with this crisis. Further, we have provided public service announcements in Pond Inlet about the need for vaccine shots amongst the younger segment of their population. We have asked that they receive vaccine shots to combat this particular infection. That is what transpired up there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some communities have a nursing shortage that comes with its own challenges. We have heard of cases where sick patients wishing to go to the health centre do not get on the list of appointments due to the lack of space. The number of appointments is limited for each day, as only part of the day is set for appointments.

Quite a few sick people who want to schedule an appointment are refused since the appointments for the day are full or that even the next day is booked solid. Due to their sickness, this person is calling to set an appointment but is not

receiving treatment due to the lack of nurses or the way health centre operations schedule appointments in the communities. This experience has happened to people and they convey their consternation over this lack of service.

I want to ask about cases where a person does not get an appointment even though they may be sick, whether it is due to the extra workloads or the set times for appointments in the day. In other jurisdictions, health departments often have call-in lines where concerned residents can call in to ask questions of a qualified health professional. Can the minister indicate whether any consideration has been giving to setting up a health care hotline service in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for making that clear. My officials are continually researching options that can provide more services to our people, whether or not it is new technology. As an example, some communities now have (interpretation ends) telehealth (interpretation) that connects them via camera with a doctor. We distributed this technology to some communities and most are up and running.

Doctors cannot travel immediately to all the other communities. In emergencies where a doctor is not available, the nurse can use the telehealth technology to check on the patient's ears, nose, or skin with the doctor looking on. This can provide a big service, as it is a

videoconference and not just a verbal discussion. This technology is providing better service and nurses can call a 1-800 number to get in touch with a doctor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another matter we commonly hear about, which is quite objectionable to listen to, relates to patients who keep going to the health centre to complain about health concerns, but told that they are fine. We often hear people mention this type of experience, which is quite disturbing and extremely distressing to hear about. There are examples of people misdiagnosed many times when they were actually suffering from an illness. Even people who state they feel ill get advice that they are fine and receive painkillers to alleviate their pain.

What I want to ask about is if Nunavummiut will ever be able to complain if we feel a misdiagnosis occurred since people, at least I, will state, "I am sick because I know my body and I can feel when something is not quite right." The reason why I determine my sickness is due to my intimate knowledge of my body. Even though some patients have this physical self-diagnostic ability, they are told that they are in good health. They relate this experience of their self-diagnosis as being irrelevant and many people bring that forward.

When a person feels a misdiagnosis occurred or if any person in Nunavut feels that they are sick but just hear that they are fine, what avenues can they take

to try to get a different diagnosis or, in English, (interpretation ends) a second opinion (interpretation) medically separate from the health centre? Is there anything a person can do when they keep going to the health centre, but told they are in good health? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member. Now, more than one nurse generally provides services in the community and anyone who feels they have been misdiagnosed can approach other medical professionals.

However, if anyone has gone to the health centre several times and believes that they are not receiving the right service or being misdiagnosed, they can call a helpline we have set up for complaints where they would receive extra assistance. The helpline is called the (interpretation ends) Patient Relations Office (interpretation) that they can call. I would urge people to call the office so that discussions can begin on alternative options for the person who is concerned about their health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 349 – 4(3): Sealing Day on the Hill

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My second question today is for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the minister delivered a statement regarding the recent Sealing Day on the Hill event. I realize that this event was held by the federal government in cooperation with the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association and that the minister and his department may not have had the final decision as to who was invited.

However, I note that the department does have the responsibility to support the sealing sectors in Nunavut. According to the Minister's Statement, the event served to emphasize the government's continued commitment to Canadian sealing and to educate and inform a wide range of parliamentarians, such as us, on the issues and challenges facing the sector.

Can the minister indicate if his department has any influence in forming the invitation list for this event and, if so, can he indicate what specific organizations and representatives were invited to the event? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question about sealing issues. We follow the invitation list and we are just one of the parties invited to these meetings. However, with respect to sealing issues, we are involved in various areas. The groups invited to meetings include this government and we are treated just like any invited group. It is also noticeable that discussions around sealing occurred in Ottawa just this month. I was invited to

that meeting and that is how it was set up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister explain how an event such as the Sealing Day on the Hill will improve the presence of Nunavut's sealing industry in the European Union and around the world? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, indeed, due to the changes in governments, the circumstances may change a bit, but it usually involves the same groups in sealing and the commercial sale of sealskins, where they feel it is acceptable. The groups are generally the same ones.

With respect to how we can disseminate this information globally to understand our reasoning for sealing, now in Brussels, the past minister of DFO, Hunter Tootoo, was with me when we attended meetings. The way it is set up now, including past delegations, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut, and the other regions that deliberate on sealing issues are provided public exposure. However, it rarely changes in terms of optics.

What I can state now is that when we got together at the event, there were many representatives at the Ottawa meeting. The event was at Parliament Hill and included MPs and the Speaker of the

House. It included senators, such as Senator Dennis Patterson and others. Yes, perhaps due to the new government in Ottawa, more MPs were present at this meeting than in years past. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems like a lot of people were, indeed, interested in attending the event.

Can the minister indicate if his department is currently planning any specific events to promote Nunavut's sealing industry in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question. Yes, the Nunatsiavut government in Labrador will be hosting another event and we have been included in the planning for the event.

Further, the important aspects used in Nunavut revolving around sealing are presented and they do travel to the communities to deliver presentations on sealing. We are trying to promote the seal hunters in Nunavut and people who sell sealskins by providing assistance to them in order to sell their skins in Nunavut as well as in Canada, particularly across the ocean in Europe where we hope to sell sealskins.

Another matter which I feel has the most impact outside of Nunavut is the (interpretation ends) Northern Lights (interpretation) Trade Show in Ottawa that occurs in the winter. Yes, we are trying to utilize all avenues wherever we can promote sustainable sealing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members, the time for question period has expired. Going to the orders of the day. 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. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasié.

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

Committee Report 012 – 4(3): Report of the Striking Committee on Revisions to the Structure and Terms of Reference for the Committees of the Fourth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the honour today of presenting the Report of the Striking Committee on Revisions to the Structure and Terms of Reference for the Standing Committees of the Fourth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, as the House is aware, 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.

Rule 83 of the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut* requires that a Striking Committee be established to report and recommend to the House, with all convenient speed, the membership of the standing committees of the Legislative Assembly.

As members will recall, the Striking Committee was established by way of motion on the first sitting day of the Fourth Legislative Assembly.

As members will also recall, the first report of the Striking Committee was received and adopted by the House at its sitting of March 6, 2014. The present committee structure of the current Assembly was established at that time.

Mr. Speaker, standing committees perform a number of important oversight functions on the activities of the government through:

- The consideration of proposed legislation;
- The scrutiny of main estimates, capital estimates, and business plans;
- The holding of televised hearings on the annual reports of independent officers of the Legislative Assembly and other entities; and
- The study of specific public policy issues and other matters referred to committees by the House.

The work of standing committees allows for significant public and stakeholder input into the development of new legislation.

The televised hearings that are held on the annual reports of independent officers of the Legislative Assembly and other entities serve to enhance government transparency and accountability.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the permanent public record and Nunavummiut who are following our televised proceedings today, I wish to take this opportunity to review the mandate and structure of each of the Legislative Assembly's standing committees.

As my colleagues will recall, the Regular Members' Caucus of the Legislative Assembly determined, in the interest of stability and consistency at the beginning of our term of office, that the standing committee structure which was in place at the time of dissolution of the Third Legislative Assembly should be maintained.

As we approach the final year of this legislature's term, members have determined that it is now the time to modify the structure. Members anticipate evaluating the success of this structure at the end of our mandate and making recommendations for the consideration of the incoming Members of the Fifth Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, the current mandate and membership of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges will remain unchanged, as will the current mandate and membership of the Standing Committee on Legislation and the Striking Committee itself.

The most significant change to the structure is the establishment of a new

Standing Committee on Government Estimates and Operations, which will consist of all regular members. The mandate of this standing committee is to consider the main estimates, capital estimates, and business plans of all of the government's departments, in addition to the Nunavut Housing Corporation and Nunavut Arctic College. The establishment of this committee will enhance the level of scrutiny of the government's expenditures and activities.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Independent Officers and Other Entities will be responsible for considering the public accounts and reports of the Auditor General and other independent officers of the Legislative Assembly. It will also have oversight responsibility for a number of Crown agencies, territorial corporations, and other entities, including the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, the Nunavut Development Corporation, the Qulliq Energy Corporation, the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, the Human Rights Tribunal, the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit, the Legal Services Board, the Liquor Licensing Board, the Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council, the Utility Rates Review Council, and the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit. Mr. Speaker, this standing committee will also consist of regular MLAs.

I would like to take a moment to note for the record that a number of very successful televised hearings have been held during the current Assembly on the annual reports and business plans of a number of the entities that I just listed.

*See Appendix for full text of Committee Report 12 – 4(3).

Mr. Speaker, that concludes the report of the Striking Committee. Consequently, I move that it be received and adopted by the House and that the *Terms of Reference for the Standing Committees of the 4th Legislative Assembly of Nunavut*, which is attached to this report as an appendix, be deemed to have come into effect as of this date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Do members agree that the report of the Striking Committee be received and adopted by the House?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: And the *Terms of Reference for the Standing Committee of the 4th Legislative of Nunavut* be deemed to have come into effect as of this date?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: There is an agreement.

Item 13. (interpretation) Tabling of Documents. Mr. Enook.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 144 – 4(3): Inuit Circumpolar Council Press Release Regarding Russian Rocket

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a news release that has been issued by the Inuit Circumpolar Council regarding this weekend's anticipated incident involving the Russian rocket launch. I encourage all members to review this with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 17 and 18 and Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3) with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 10:50 and Committee resumed at 11:10

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

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good morning. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. As we proceed with the meeting, firstly, good morning, our fellow Nunavummiut who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio broadcast. Welcome to your Legislative Assembly no matter where you are.

In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 17 and 18 and Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the discussion on Tabled Documents 73 –

4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3). Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Are we in agreement that we try to deal with all the tabled documents?

Some Members: Agreed.

Tabled Document 073 – 4(2): Human Resource Strategy 2014-2018 – Consideration in Committee

Tabled Document 116 – 4(2): Public Service Code of Values and Ethics – Consideration in Committee

Tabled Document 140 – 4(2): Public Service Annual Report 2013-2014 – Consideration in Committee

Tabled Document 070 – 4(3): 2014-2015 Public Service Annual Report – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson, do you have officials that you would like to bring to the table? Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good morning. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have two witnesses. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson would like to have two witnesses with him at the table. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Chris D’Arcy, Deputy Minister of Finance, and to my left is Jeff Chown, Comptroller General of the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the House, Mr. D’Arcy and Mr. Chown. I would like to proceed and before I go to the list of names for questions, Minister Peterson would like to make a few comments. I now give you the floor.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of very brief comments in response to some questions yesterday.

Yesterday, Mr. Joanasie asked about statistics related to our Priority Hiring Policy. Although we do not specifically track the application of the Priority Hiring Policy, the department does have rich data with respect to applications for positions in the public service. As we said yesterday, the Priority Hiring Policy is applied for 100 percent of our competitions.

I suggest that members refer to pages 28 to 31 of the 2014-15 *Public Service Annual Report* for additional information. With respect to terminations, during 2014-15, there were 37 made up of 21 abandonment of positions or AWOLs (absent without leave) and 16 for other reasons. For 2015-16, there were 29 terminations, 13 were for abandonment and 16 for other causes.

During discussions yesterday, Ms. Angnakak mentioned that our electronic human resource systems could be a trigger for reopening discussions with respect to human resource roles and responsibilities. Perhaps Mr. D'Arcy could have been clearer in his response. There was a functional and complex electronic leave and attendance system that was being implemented by the Department of Human Resources. However, that implementation was abandoned and the manual system put in place. No further work was initiated by the Department of Human Resources.

In fact, the whole system side of the then department was so dysfunctional that functional responsibility for it, including reporting relations of personnel, was transferred to the Department of Finance immediately upon announcement of the reorganization. This was several months, perhaps even as much as six months prior to the official transfer. Currently, the department is investigating other avenues to implement an electronic system. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Thank you for that information. I would like to proceed and go to the names. First on my list is Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Minister Peterson and your officials.

My first question is: as of today, which departments (interpretation ends) or Crown agencies and territorial corporations have been delegated full staffing authority? Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for that question. If he's referring to territorial corporations, I believe it is the Qulliq Energy Corporation in full and Nunavut Arctic College for instructors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that response. Are there any other departments or Crown agencies and territorial corporations that will be delegated full staffing authority over the coming year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. If he's referring to over the next year, I don't believe there are any plans to devolve full staffing authorities to any departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With these full staffing authority delegations, how does this impact the decentralized model and decentralized communities within the territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. It shouldn't affect the decentralization model. All delegated authorities, all departments or territorial corporations that are delegated authorities have to follow the same rules that are in place by the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be moving on to another subject here. One of my colleagues had asked a question yesterday, but I want to ask in further detail. When you look at the Government of Nunavut's 85 percent Inuit workforce target, what is the realistic timeline for achieving this objective? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the very good question. We don't have a realistic timeline. It's obvious by the different reports that I pointed out yesterday, the Berger report and the OAG's report, that we weren't achieving the numbers in moving people up into the areas that needed middle management, semi-professionals, and professionals.

With the settlement last year between NTI and the Government of Canada and the creation of the new training board, we're hopeful that a lot of the money

from that settlement can be targeted towards putting on training programs specifically targeted at training people to move into these, as I said, middle management, professional, and semi-professional positions. How long that takes, a lot of it will depend on the applicants, the people getting trained, how successful they are in achieving their educational goals and gaining experience to qualify for those jobs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure if this was asked yesterday, but on October 22, 2015, it might be closely related to Mr. Joanasie's question yesterday, the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated announced the establishment of the Nunavut Inuit Training Corporation. The Premier and the Minister of Education sit on this corporation's board of directors. As of today, how many meetings has the board of directors held and what was decided at these meetings? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. Although I know they have been having meetings, I don't have the details or specifics of those meetings. I'm not a member of the board and I don't participate, but I do know that as early as this week, there was a meeting that the Premier and the Minister of Education attended. They are having

meetings and they are making plans.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As being responsible for human resources within the Government of Nunavut and we have a target that we're trying to reach with the Inuit workforce, according to my calculations, we should not be losing any Inuit in any career within any of the Government of Nunavut departments. With that, do you anticipate to be meeting in the near future with the Premier and the Minister of Education to discuss further into the Nunavut Inuit Training Corporation and how this will improve within the Government of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak again for the question. I meet regularly with my colleagues on a number of issues and human resources are, of course, as I said several times yesterday, a high priority for us, as is Article 23, so we are regularly meeting at the political level. With respect to other levels, we do have officials at the officials' level who engage on those types of discussions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A follow-up to that, when we look at Nunavut Inuit training and following Article 23 and when we look

at management positions, is there a clear... ? In any of your documents, could you refer me to a particular document where there could be improvements by a particular government department to enhance Inuit training? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak again for the question. As I mentioned yesterday, the Government of Nunavut has the *Human Resource Strategy* for 2014-18 that all government departments and territorial corporations committed to implementing.

It's the responsibility of every deputy head of every organization to put training programs in place to support the employees who want to advance to the mid-level positions. I can't point to the specific document that identifies a specific department or territorial corporation that is having difficulties with doing that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we look at this Nunavut Inuit training establishment and looking at the Human Resource Strategy that the Government of Nunavut has, when we look at the Nunavut beneficiaries, is there a high demand or a high interest to the senior management or middle management positions for the training program or does it vary by each government department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. Again, under the Human Resource Strategy, we encourage each individual department and territorial corporation to work with their staff through performance management, through performance appraisals, identify their career aspirations, identify employees who are interested in moving up the management ranks. Not every employee wants to be a manager or director when it comes with its own sets of headaches being in management. A lot of people are just happy where they are, moving laterally.

The deputy heads work internally to identify employees who need training. Again, the Department of Finance and the Department of EIA are there to assist those departments to provide the training and resources for people who want to avail themselves of management type training. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I look at this Nunavut Inuit training incentive that's being worked on here, as of today, approximately what percentage of all casual and relief workers have been in the same position for longer than one year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I again thank Mr.

Mikkungwak for the question. If you give us a moment, I think we have those statistics here, and then I'll ask my Comptroller General, Jeff Chown, to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Whenever you are ready to respond, Mr. Chown.

Mr. Chown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the Government of Nunavut as of April 30, 2016, there were 724 casual employees employed by the government. Of those, 53 percent were beneficiaries. In the same period last year, there were 636, of which 59 percent were beneficiaries. At the moment, I don't have the number of those that were over one year in front of me, but I can make that information available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will expect that information as soon as we can get it. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can only speak for my community. I know some casuals that did work for the Government of Nunavut are no longer employed, but having obtained their resumé or their employee information on human resources, HR, I believe you guys maintain that information. Will the current casuals that may be in place by various government departments within each respective community under the Nunavut Inuit Training Corporation that is underway now be taken into consideration, the casuals or indeterminate positions, as viewed in the government workforce? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for his question. If I understand his question or suggestion correctly, we can look at the casuals and their training needs and we can suggest to the training group or corporation training that can be identified for them to get the training to get the full education and qualifications to qualify for jobs. A lot of casuals can only fill or perform, let's say, 50 percent to 75 percent of a full-time job. When they do fill a funded position, they're paid a lesser amount. If we can get them the education and qualifications to perform at 100 percent of the job, then they would certainly qualify for employment on a full-time basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess the minister is on par this morning, which sort of leads right into my next question.

When we look at these casuals and relief workers currently in place as opposed to a full-time employee, a full-time employee has a union rep., if they're filing a grievance or whatnot. What structure is in place for any casuals and relief workers if they want to file an appeal or if they want to file a grievance? They're not paying union dues, so they cannot have a union rep. What structure is in place for casual and relief workers? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. If casual and relief workers are in union positions, they are entitled to the same protections, appeals, and grievances that regular employees are entitled to, if they are paying union dues.

Mr. Chairman, we did find the stats on long-term casuals. If I can respond to the last question, long-term casual statistics as of May 31, 2016, greater than one year, there were 188 long-term casuals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Is there any possibility we can have that last statistic in front of us for Monday? (interpretation) Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is a possibility. I will make it happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Please make it happen. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for asking that question, which gives me a little bit more time on other questions here.

When we look at the 188 casual employees and casual work or relief workers, is there a difference as to how long they could be employed as a casual or relief worker before they become identified as a full-time employee? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask Mr. Chown to answer this question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Chown.

Mr. Chown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to relief employees, by their nature, relief employees are individuals who have expressed interest of working for the government on an as-and-when-needed basis. They wouldn't be regularly scheduled shift employees. They might be called in on the spur of the moment when there is work available because somebody had called in sick or for some other unexpected reason. Those employees actually have the option at the time to say yes or no to reject the offer of work. Generally, a relief employee would not be in a position where they would be expected to eventually become permanent unless they were applying on a permanent position. Specifically, they are to cover vacancies as they occur on a periodic basis for funded positions.

With respect to casual employees, quite often, those casual employees will be covering off vacant positions in some capacity or another. It could be covering a maternity leave or an extended leave of some other sort. Depending on the situation, they may or may not be covering the full scope of the position. We may, because we are not able to find the qualified candidate for a position, bring an individual in to just cover certain portions of the job, in which case we would tailor these casual staffing actions for that individual to reflect the

portion of the position they were working in.

As far as when the casual might become permanent, it really depends on individual circumstances. Sometimes they are covering workload and not covering a funded position. Other times, they might be covering a leave. Other casuals move successively from one casual assignment to another and may be with us for more than a year, but it might not be in the same position. Every situation is different.

Within our department, what we do is, as I mentioned yesterday, where casuals do get beyond four months, the union looks at it and has to bless it. Where casuals are beyond a year, we require substantiations from departments as to why they are over a year and we work with those departments to ensure that if there is opportunity to move to a permanent position, we do encourage them to post the positions so that the employees can screen into those positions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the official's response in clarifying how casual and relief workers are discussed in the government workforce. As the official indicated, they are tailored and may be moved around to another department, as they are casuals. When you look at that word "tailored," are they also tailored for pay benefits or compensation benefits when the casual position is going to be terminated? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chown will respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Chown.

Mr. Chown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to casuals moving between positions, generally they move because their assignment has ended and they have found another opportunity, but as long as there is not a break in service of more than 21 days, those individuals are considered to have continuous service and so it does not impact benefit entitlements setting them back to zero.

Basically, after four months, a casual employee has the majority of the same benefits as any other permanent employee. They're on the same pay scale, they receive northern allowances, they're entitled to annual leave, sick leave, and all the usual benefits of a full-time employee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we're talking about continuous service and if a casual is terminated, do they get a payout like a full-time employee who gets a substantial payout for continuous service? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Mr. Chown answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Chown.

Mr. Chown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to employees and payouts, if you're referring to severance, we do have a severance component within our entitlements for employees, but it's only for certain employees and it only comes into effect after 10 years worth of service. That doesn't apply to union employees. It's for the senior management ranks. It would be only for the senior management ranks that that severance applies and it would not apply to casuals nor would we expect to see ourselves in a situation where a person was a casual for more than 10 years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Mikkungwak with 19 seconds to go.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we look at these casuals that have been in the casual position for more than one year in that position, does Human Resources start to determine if they are going to be considered for indeterminate or full-time positions, considering the fact that they stayed in the position for more than one year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Mr. Chown to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Chown.

Mr. Chown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The length of time that an individual is casual does not directly impact whether or not they get considered for permanent employment. Again, it's on a case-by-case basis depending on the situation. Again, after a year as a casual, we do work directly with departments to determine why they have casuals for that length of time, whether they're in a position that is funded, and that could be available to them as a potential permanent employment opportunity. We encourage the departments, where possible, to advertise those positions to bring those individuals into them through the competitive process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Moving on, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Mikkungwak asked several of the questions that I wanted to ask, but I'll try not to overlap my questions with the ones that he has asked.

First off, yesterday, Mr. Chown stated that in the past year, they have advanced 150 casual employees into the indeterminate ranks of government, which is a good thing to hear, and I think we still have a long way to go.

My first question, with employees that are casual and you expect them to go beyond a year, you said that they need a special permission from your department. Can you give us some of the reasons why you would want to go beyond a year as a casual? After the casual term is up, why wouldn't you just

move on and try to get the person to an indeterminate position? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for his first question. I'll ask Mr. Chown to respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Chown.

Mr. Chown: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, it does depend on individual situations. For example, it's not uncommon that the individual in the casual function may not actually be covering a funded position within the government. If there's not a funded and approved position to advertise, then we can't move forward until we have a funded position.

Again, we would work with departments where they had casuals and sometimes they may need casuals to cover short-term workload and that short term may extend beyond a year. Other times when it does start to get longer, we start to question with departments whether they do need funded positions and if it's justified, we would encourage them to go through the process of having the positions approved through FMB and cabinet so that they could staff them. Again, if there isn't a position, then that's often a stumbling block for moving forward with some casuals.

Casuals aren't approved necessarily by community either. Casuals come and go in the communities and positions depending on the needs of the

department. Again, we do look at it fairly closely with departments once they get over a year to determine if the situation is appropriate. Again, the casuals are not always in the same position. Quite often, when we look at it, the person may have been a casual for two years, but they may have been in two or three different positions during that term without a break in service and may not even be within the same department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again in regard to casuals and I guess if you compare casuals to indeterminate employees, is there any advantage to the government to keep people as casuals cost-wise or is it exactly the same as if they were indeterminate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for that question. As I indicated to yourself earlier when you were asking questions, Mr. Chairman, if you're working at a funded position, the pay is determined on 100 percent of doing all the duties of the job. Quite often, the casuals are only able to fulfill 60 to 70 percent of the job and they're paid accordingly. In that respect, there are savings there because you're not paying an extra 25 percent, but then again, you're not getting the full amount of productivity of a casual in that they can't do all the duties of the job. You might save on the monetary side, but you would probably lose on the productivity side.

Casuals get most of the benefits under the collective agreement. I don't have all the details in front of me, but they get paid in steps or increments just like all other employees covered under the collective agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of more questions. Again with regard to casuals, I would like to talk a bit about the hiring process. What hiring process does the GN use when it comes to hiring casuals? Do they go through HR and advertise as if they were indeterminate? Is it the same process or are managers and supervisors left to do that legwork in hiring casuals? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the department has a funded position that's vacant or they have what we call an unfunded position where they need to get some work done, they don't advertise for casuals. The department would go to the Human Resources Division and there's the casual application file or binder and they would typically look through that binder for someone with the qualifications they need to do that job. Again, Article 23 priority hire applies to hiring casuals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you talk about keeping a list of casual employees and a supervisor or manager gets access to these to pick somebody for the position, are there any controls in place to make sure that whoever is picking the person is true or clear in a way that family members aren't getting picked for jobs or whether there's good accountability on the people that are choosing for these positions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. Under the *Public Service Act*, there is a clause, it's clause 9.1(1)(2) where it clearly defines that people are not supposed to participate in recruiting or hiring of immediate family or relatives. There's a list of them there. They would have to disclose that they're related and they should recuse themselves from participating in hiring casuals or any other employees. The deputy ministers of all departments sign the casual staffing agreement, so it has to be very clear that nepotism is not something we condone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one or possibly two more questions, in the past, back in 2010 when the Auditor General's report came out, it was found that it was taking 318 days in order to fill positions. I wonder: as of today, how is it taking to fill vacant positions within the government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. I remember the Auditor General's report from those days. Currently, from the time the job ad goes out, it takes between 90 and 95 days. Before the job ad goes out, we have to make sure that all the paperwork is in place and the job description is updated through Job Evaluation. When it goes out, there's a period of time for advertising and interviews. There are appeals processes. There's all that. That all factors in, but it's about 90 to 95 days. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be my last question for today. I remember back when we were having discussions with the Auditor General's report in 2010, one of the stumbling blocks and the reasons for taking 318 days was the amount of time that it was taking departments to bring it forward to HR that an employee was needed. As of today, have the reporting requirements from departments to HR improved to the point where they're giving you adequate time to fill these positions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the very good question. As I said, when we get the completed paperwork, that's when we initiate the job ad. On every competition, our position is we have to ensure that the paperwork is in order.

There may be times when we have to go back to departments to get that paperwork.

I believe, in talking to my comptroller general over the last couple of years on this, significant improvements have been made. The departments are working cooperatively with our human resources section. I think most departments have their human resources divisions within the department, so we have a good working relationship and of course, we're always exchanging information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. As per Rule 6(1), I now recognize the clock and will report progress to the Speaker.

Thank you, Minister and your staff. Sergeant-at-Arms, please assist the witnesses.

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3) and would like to report progress. 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. Rumbolt.

>>Laughter

All those in favour. Opposed. Thank you. The motion is carried.

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

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder of meetings tomorrow, Saturday, there's a meeting of the Management and Services Board starting at ten o'clock, and for Monday, there's a meeting of the Regular Members' Caucus in the Nanuq Boardroom, but please note that the new starting time for the meeting is half past 9:00 in the morning.

Orders of the Day for June 6:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions

15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 17
 - Bill 18
 - Tabled Document 73 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 116 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 140 – 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. Now, at this time two of our pages servicing us come from Hall Beach, and they are scheduled to travel home today. I wish to thank them for their excellent service as they represent our constituents. They are: Dino Akearok, can you stand up, please.

>>*Applause*

I wish to apologize that the other page, Shanna, who was here earlier departed to pack up her belongings.

I extend our gratitude to the pages and we wish them a great future down the road. We thank you for your hard work.

>>*Applause*

(interpretation ends) This House stands adjourned until Monday, June 6, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 12:01*

Appendix – June 3, 2016



**Terms of Reference for the Standing Committees of the
4th Legislative Assembly of Nunavut**

June 2016

Standing Committee on Government Estimates and Operations

The mandate of the Standing Committee on Government Estimates and Operations is to:

- Consider main estimates, capital estimates and business plans; and
- Consider any other matter referred by the House.

The standing committee has oversight responsibility for the following Government of Nunavut departments, Crown agencies and territorial corporations:

- Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs;
- Department of Finance;
- Department of Justice;
- Department of Community and Government Services;
- Department of Economic Development and Transportation;
- Department of Environment;
- Department of Education;
- Department of Family Services;
- Department of Health;
- Department of Culture and Heritage;
- Nunavut Arctic College; and
- Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Standing Committee on Legislation

The mandate of the Standing Committee on Legislation is to:

- Consider legislative proposals;
- Consider Bills referred by the House after Second Reading, pursuant to the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut*;
- Consider regulations that are proposed and/or passed by the government;
and
- Consider any other matter referred by the House.

Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Independent Officers and Other Entities

The mandate of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Independent Officers and Other Entities is to consider the territorial public accounts and reports of the:

- Auditor General of Canada;
- Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut;
- Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut;
- Languages Commissioner of Nunavut; and
- Representative for Children and Youth.

The Standing Committee has oversight responsibility for the following entities:

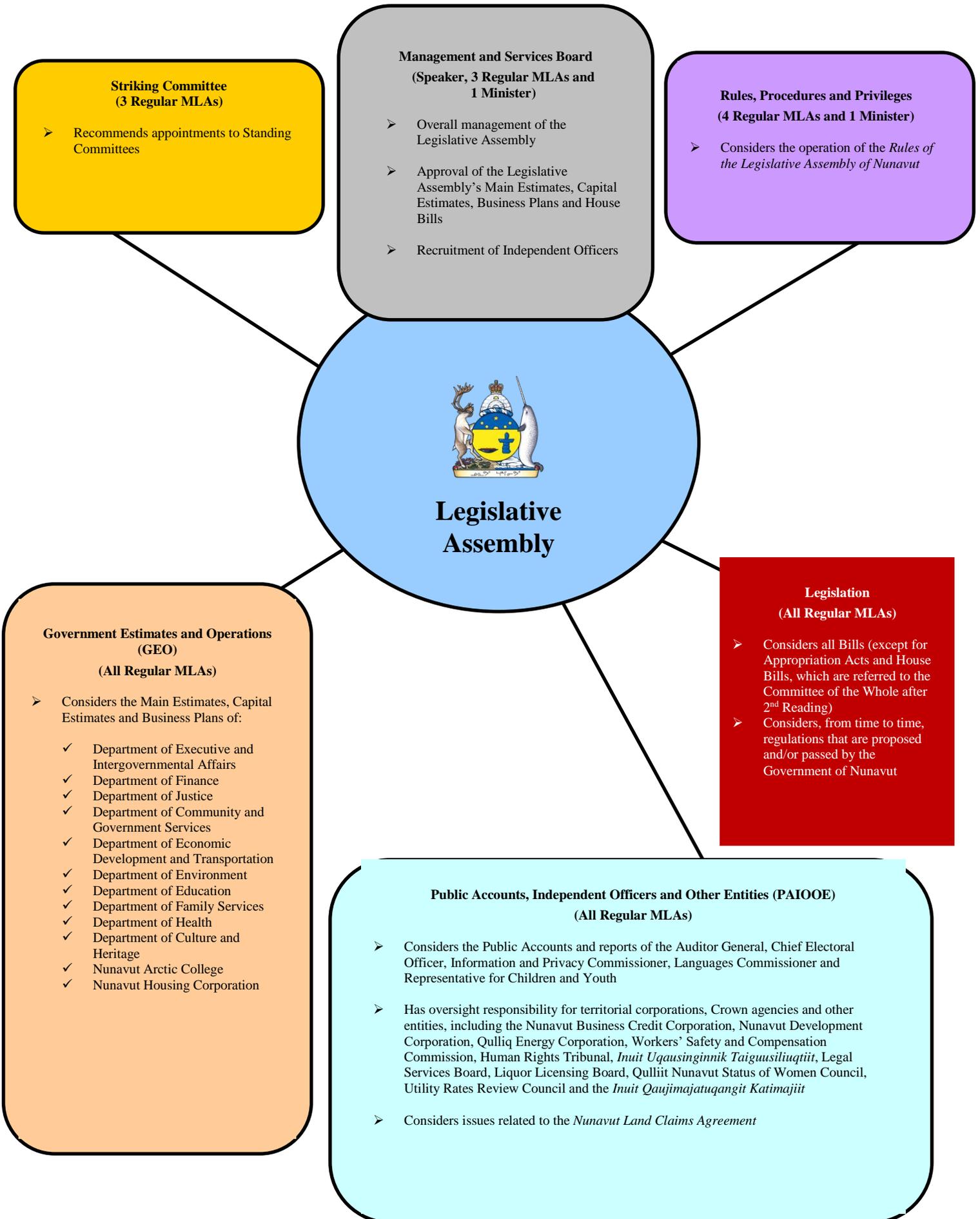
- Nunavut Business Credit Corporation;
- Nunavut Development Corporation;
- Qulliq Energy Corporation;
- Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission;
- Human Rights Tribunal;
- *Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit*;
- Legal Services Board;
- Liquor Licensing Board;
- Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council;
- Utility Rates Review Council; and
- *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit*.

The standing committee is also responsible for considering matters related to the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges

The mandate of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges is to:

- Consider the operation of the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut*; and
- Consider any other matter referred by the House with respect to the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut*.



Legislative Assembly

Striking Committee (3 Regular MLAs)

- Recommends appointments to Standing Committees

Management and Services Board (Speaker, 3 Regular MLAs and 1 Minister)

- Overall management of the Legislative Assembly
- Approval of the Legislative Assembly's Main Estimates, Capital Estimates, Business Plans and House Bills
- Recruitment of Independent Officers

Rules, Procedures and Privileges (4 Regular MLAs and 1 Minister)

- Considers the operation of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Legislation (All Regular MLAs)

- Considers all Bills (except for Appropriation Acts and House Bills, which are referred to the Committee of the Whole after 2nd Reading)
- Considers, from time to time, regulations that are proposed and/or passed by the Government of Nunavut

Government Estimates and Operations (GEO) (All Regular MLAs)

- Considers the Main Estimates, Capital Estimates and Business Plans of:
 - ✓ Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs
 - ✓ Department of Finance
 - ✓ Department of Justice
 - ✓ Department of Community and Government Services
 - ✓ Department of Economic Development and Transportation
 - ✓ Department of Environment
 - ✓ Department of Education
 - ✓ Department of Family Services
 - ✓ Department of Health
 - ✓ Department of Culture and Heritage
 - ✓ Nunavut Arctic College
 - ✓ Nunavut Housing Corporation

Public Accounts, Independent Officers and Other Entities (PAIOOE) (All Regular MLAs)

- Considers the Public Accounts and reports of the Auditor General, Chief Electoral Officer, Information and Privacy Commissioner, Languages Commissioner and Representative for Children and Youth
- Has oversight responsibility for territorial corporations, Crown agencies and other entities, including the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, Nunavut Development Corporation, Qulliq Energy Corporation, Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Human Rights Tribunal, Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit, Legal Services Board, Liquor Licensing Board, Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council, Utility Rates Review Council and the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit
- Considers issues related to the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement