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Official Report

**DAY 10**

**Thursday, March 17, 2022**

**Pages 445 – 510**

**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable Tony Akoak, MLA**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

**Hon. Tony Akoak**  
(Gjoa Haven)

**Hon. David Akeegok**  
(Quttiktuq)

*Minister of Environment; Minister of Justice;  
Minister responsible for Labour*

**Hon. P.J. Akeegok**  
(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguut)

*Premier; Minister of Executive and  
Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible  
for Immigration; Minister responsible for  
Indigenous Affairs; Minister responsible for the  
Utility Rates Review Council*

**Bobby Anavilok**  
(Kugluktuk)

**Janet Brewster**  
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

**Hon. Pamela Gross**  
(Cambridge Bay)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of Education;  
Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic  
College*

**George Hickes**  
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

*Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee  
of the Whole*

**Hon. David Joanasic**  
(South Baffin)

*Minister of Community and Government  
Services*

**Joelie Kaernerik**  
(Amittuq)

**Mary Killiktee**  
(Uqqummiut)

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**  
(Rankin Inlet South)  
*Government House Leader; Minister  
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Transportation; Minister of Energy;  
Minister responsible for the Nunavut  
Housing Corporation*

**Hon. Adam Lightstone**  
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)  
*Minister of Finance, Chair of the  
Financial Management Board;  
Minister of Human Resources;  
Minister responsible for the Workers'  
Safety and Compensation  
Commission*

**Hon. John Main**  
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)  
*Minister of Health; Minister  
responsible for Suicide Prevention*

**Solomon Malliki**  
(Aivilik)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the  
Whole*

**Hon. Margaret Nakashuk**  
(Pangnirtung)

*Minister of Family Services; Minister  
responsible for Homelessness; Minister  
responsible for the Status of Women*

**Karen Nutarak**  
(Tununiq)

**Daniel Qavvik**  
(Hudson Bay)

**Hon. Joanna Quassa**  
(Aggu)  
*Minister of Culture and Heritage;  
Minister of Languages; Minister  
responsible for the Qulliq Energy  
Corporation; Minister responsible for  
Seniors*

**Inagayuk Quqqiaq**  
(Netsilik)

**Alexander Sammurtok**  
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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Thursday, March 17, 2022**

**Members Present:**

Hon. David Akeeagok, Hon. Tony Akoak, Mr. Bobby Anavilok, Ms. Janet Brewster, Hon. Pamela Gross, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. Joeline Kaerner, Ms. Mary Killiktee, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Hon. Adam Lightstone, Hon. John Main, Mr. Solomon Malliki, Hon. Margaret Nakashuk, Ms. Karen Nutarak, Mr. Daniel Qavvik, Hon. Joanna Quassa, Mr. Inagayuk Quqqiaq, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Craig Simailak.

>> *House commenced at 13:31*

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Tony Akoak) (interpretation): Let us pray.

>> *Prayer*

**Speaker:** Good afternoon, everyone. (interpretation) Inuit and those viewing and listening to the proceedings, welcome. To all residents who are in the process of receiving assistance throughout Nunavut, please have the service providers guiding them, and for colleagues meeting today, we appreciate this assistance to our residents.

(interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. Hon. Government House Leader, Mr. Kusugak.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 051 – 6(1):  
Minister Absent from the House**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Good day, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise Members of the Assembly that the Hon. David Joanase will be absent today as he is participating in the provincial, territorial and federal ministers' meeting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Ms. Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 052 – 6(1):  
Retirement of Stephane Qupanuaq  
Cloutier**

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, colleagues, people of Igloodik, and all Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that Stephane Cloutier, or Qupanuaq as most people know him, is retiring from the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Qupanuaq is passionate about Inuktitut language revitalization and was instrumental in creating our *Inuit Language Protection Act* and the *Official Languages Act*. Qupanuaq also played a critical role and led the Department of Culture and Heritage's efforts to build capacity and ensure resources were available for the Government of Nunavut to meet our language obligations.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, he led the development and implementation of two comprehensive plans to meet our

language obligations, *Uqausivut* and *Uqausivut 2.0*. Through his leadership, the department has been able to secure increased multi-year federal funding for Inuktitut and French. Further, he pushed for the creation of the Inuit Language Implementation Fund which assists departments and agencies in building their capacity to deliver programs and services in Inuktitut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, through his career in the department, he has worn many hats, including director of official languages, acting deputy minister, assistant deputy minister, special advisor, acting executive director of Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, Qupanuaq exemplified Aajiqatigiingniq and Piliriqatigiinni when carrying out his duties. He has worked closely with all Government of Nunavut departments and agencies, Inuit organizations, federal departments, language stakeholders, and our circumpolar and indigenous partners across the circumpolar world and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, although birds have small feet and do not wear shoes, the retirement of Qupanuaq leaves big shoes to fill. As we venture into a new mandate, it is my hope that the Government of Nunavut and this Legislative Assembly will honour his hard work by ensuring that we continue to push hard for Inuktitut language protection and revitalization. It is in this way that we could express our gratitude by ensuring we continue on the path of Inuktitut language revitalization.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Qupanuaq well in his well-deserved retirement. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in giving Qupanuaq a round of applause to express our gratitude. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): We are truly grateful to this individual for assisting Inuit greatly.

(interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

### **Minister's Statement 053 – 6(1): Kisarvik Program**

**Hon. Margaret Nakashuk**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, and I say "good day" to Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the Department of Family Services' successful continued delivery of the Kisarvik Program in partnership with the Nunavut Fisheries and Marine Training Consortium. This program supports the development and delivery of training and employment programs for unemployed Nunavummiut who experience multiple barriers to employment. It equips Nunavummiut with transferable skills and credentials that are nationally recognized and in demand in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, to date, Family Services has provided \$857,000 in funds to train individuals to participate in the marine industry by teaching sector specific technical knowledge as well as life skills required for employment in the industry. It is accredited training encompassing a

curriculum approved by Transport Canada for certification. It includes the Bridgewatch Part 1 course and the Small Vessel Operator Proficiency Course. Twenty individuals have been trained to date.

Mr. Speaker, the Kisarvik Program prepares Nunavummiut for careers in the fishing industry, both inshore and offshore fishing, the cargo vessel industry, the tanker sector, Canadian Coast Guard, work on barges and tugboats, the fish processing sector, outfitters, and other roles where people can use their vessels in a commercial enterprise. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Minister's Statement 054 – 6(1):  
Transgender Health Services**

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, colleagues and Premier.

(interpretation ends) *Uqaqtitsijii*, the Department of Health is committed to providing medically necessary health care that aims to address the mental health of Nunavummiut when it comes to sexual health. This includes offering transition-related health services for transgender and non-binary Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, transition-related surgeries are medically necessary health care that assist transgender and non-binary individuals in their transitions. For individuals with gender dysphoria,

surgeries may be essential to alleviate their symptoms and improve their mental health.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, gender dysphoria refers to a strong and persistent distress or discomfort experienced by some transgender people due to a disconnect between their gender identity and sex assigned at birth.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, transition-related health services is a spectrum of health care services ranging from mental health care, hormone therapy, to surgeries. Treatment for each transgender, non-binary, and gender-nonconforming person is unique to their own experience and needs. Some individuals may choose to change their gender expression or body modifications, including medical interventions like hormonal therapy and/or transition surgery.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, the Department of Health has developed a clear path to access medically necessary health care through Nunavummiut's health care providers. All individuals that meet the criteria are eligible for full funding, including mental health services and costs of transition-related treatments.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, these are very specialized services, and the Department of Health is working with the Centre Métropolitain de Chirurgie in Montreal, currently one of only three clinics in Canada that provide transition-related surgeries, to ensure Nunavummiut have access to these important services.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, transition-related health services are life-saving health care. There is a higher prevalence of stress-related mental health conditions,

including minority stress among transgender and non-binary people. According to the Centre for Suicide Prevention, between 2014 and 2015, two out of three transgender youth reported self-harm and 22 percent to 43 percent of transgender people have attempted suicide in their lifetime.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, the Department of Health is committed to providing medically necessary health care to all Nunavummiut in an effort to improve mental and physical health. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you. Before I go on to the next member, I ask all members to mute their phones or shut your phones off, please. Thank you.

Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Minister's Statement 055 – 6(1):  
Funding for Lawyers: Gender-  
based Violence**

**Hon. David Akeeagok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am happy to report today on a new initiative to help ensure victims of crime have access to justice.

The Department of Justice's Community Justice Division has partnered with the Nunavut Legal Services Board to employ two lawyers to provide support for victims of family violence and sexual assault.

These lawyers will be based out of the Legal Services Board and will be available to victims to help them understand their rights, help them access

services, and guide them through the often intimidating court process.

The positions will be funded by Justice Canada through the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence.

The federal contribution will also allow the Legal Services Board to offer public education and information workshops on family violence to Nunavummiut.

The Department of Justice believes this new initiative will be a valuable tool to support victims of family violence and sexual assault, and we are committed to continued work with justice partners like the Legal Services Board, and the Government of Canada to support victims of crime in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 056 – 6(1): New  
Power Plant in Arctic Bay**

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Today I want to applaud the Qulliq Energy Corporation's new power plant in Arctic Bay, which was completed ahead of schedule and then fully commissioned and made operational in December.

This new power plant replaces the previous plant that was built in the early 1970s. The Qulliq Energy Corporation team worked closely with the mayor and hamlet council to find a location farther outside of the community. Since

completion, operations staff and residents alike tell us this new location and technology have made it much quieter in town.

Mr. Speaker, Arctic Bay's new power plant is equipped with more energy-efficient generator sets that incorporate technologies that improve fuel efficiency while reducing noise and air pollution. The new plant is adaptable and can integrate renewable energy technology into the electricity grid. It's also designed to meet the increasing energy needs of the community throughout its 40-year planned lifecycle.

Mr. Speaker, it takes a lot of work and planning to ensure the success of major projects like the new power plant in Arctic Bay. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing sincere appreciation to all the residents of Arctic Bay, the MLA, mayor and hamlet council, local workers, the construction team and Qulliq Energy Corporation staff who helped make this project a reality.

Mr. Speaker, the Qulliq Energy Corporation team continues its efforts to improve efficiency while seeking cleaner, more energy-efficient, and more cost-effective alternative energy solutions that can strengthen overall power reliability across Nunavut. The new power plant in Arctic Bay is a prime example.

I remain hopeful that we can celebrate this milestone with residents and staff in Arctic Bay later this spring.  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

### **Item 3: Members' Statements**

#### **Member's Statement 086 – 6(1): Advocating for Our Elders**

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the ongoing need to advocate on behalf of our elders.

Mr. Speaker, in discussion with my colleague and in following the ongoing debates in both the media and in this House, there is no denying that the voices of our elders and their family members are not being adequately taken into consideration with respect to elder care.

Mr. Speaker, my own personal experience in acting as an advocate and providing support for an elder in my own family have demonstrated this all too well.

Mr. Speaker, as an MLA for Iqaluit, I live in a community which is fortunate enough to have the Qikiqtani General Hospital as well as an elders' home and elder-designated housing.

Elders from other communities who require additional support and care do not necessarily have the same level of services available. In some cases, elders are transferred out of their home communities without their families being made fully aware of the reasons and expectations of the transfer.

Mr. Speaker, elders and their families need more information about what will

happen when their elder relative is re-located.

Mr. Speaker, elders and their families need better representation when it comes to the decisions that are being made with respect to their care.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly believe that decisions with respect to elder care, in both an individual context and in the context of the broader population, must be informed from an Inuit perspective. I recognize the expertise of our health professionals in delivering health care, however we cannot exclude the importance of culture when we determine how that health care will be delivered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' Statements.  
Member for Uqqummiut, Ms. Killiktee.

**Member's Statement 087 – 6(1):  
Escorts for Elders**

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address (interpretation ends) the importance of providing escorts for our elders when they travel out of the territory, out of their community and even within a community.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the Department of Health's Medical Travel Policy has recently been revised to reduce the risks of COVID-19 to our elders, whether they are medical clients or escorts. I appreciate the Minister of Health providing clarification on that issue last week.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that the change in escort policy was intended as a temporary measure although two years of pandemic restrictions does not feel very temporary.

I hope that the Medical Travel Policy will soon be updated to ensure that our elders will be entitled to an escort whenever they travel. I look forward to the Minister of Health making that announcement in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that elders who require such services as ambulance transportation to a health centre or hospital should also have an escort with them.

This is important for unilingual elders who may require assistance with interpretation. It is also important to ensure that they have someone with them to support and advocate for them when they are receiving health services and when decisions are being made about their health care.

Mr. Speaker, our government often speaks of the importance of our elders. I look forward to receiving updates on the changes to policies and practices that will ensure that our elders receive the supports they need, when they need them. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' Statements.  
Member for Tununiq, Ms. Nutarak.

**Member's Statement 088 – 6(1):  
Community-based Elder Care**

**Ms. Nutarak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to begin my statement by acknowledging the hard work and dedication of Nunavut homecare workers who provide amazing support and services in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, home and community care can play an important role in delaying or even eliminating the need for an elder to be placed in a residential long-term care facility.

Mr. Speaker, as Inuit, many of us are raised with the expectation of helping to care for our elders as they age.

I recall from many years ago, that a number of homecare staff in the Qikiqtaaluk region received training to help provide palliative care for elders in our community.

That training included how to care for a patient, how to move them, how to change dressings, and how to check their vital signs.

Mr. Speaker, the training even helped to prepare elders and their families in case of a natural death.

Mr. Speaker, having this kind of care available for our elders in the community, with caregivers speaking Inuktitut and being near family and friends aligns very closely with the concepts of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that not every community is currently able to offer home care services and I do appreciate that some of our elders may have

complex medical conditions and that an individual with dementia may require a higher level of care.

However, I am concerned that for elders who are sent away from their homes, the risks of developing complex medical issues or the onset of dementia may increase as a result of their re-location.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage our government to make greater efforts to provide more options for home care training and to recruit home care workers at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' Statements.  
Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Member's Statement 089 – 6(1):  
Sealskin Pants Program in Arctic Bay**

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to rise today to voice my recognition in the Assembly and to express my pleasure with the participants in the sealskin pant and clothing sewing class held in Arctic Bay, which concluded this week after they completed their sewing projects.

Elvina Natanine was the coordinator who applied for funding from the Hamlet of Arctic Bay towards the project, which was approved, and, on their behalf, I appreciate the support shown by the hamlet towards this initiative. Further, they were able to hire a couple of local elders, Tagoona Qavavauq and Hannah Akikuluk, to act as their design coaches, and they taught

nine women to cut, design and sew their sealskin clothing.

The participants were all excited to partake in this program, as there were more applicants than spots available, as the classroom had limited space and they could not accommodate more students.

Mr. Speaker, I was online yesterday and I noted a page on Facebook that showed my maternal niece, Lorna Kalluk, who apparently sewed an outfit for her older maternal uncle out of sealskin, after he lost his hunting clothes and we were flabbergasted by that largess towards her relatives.

We also recalled her late father, who is no longer with us as he passed away suddenly during a hunting trip. He was in our thoughts when we noted that our niece had become quite a skilled seamstress. I am quite proud of all the participants, and I took pleasure in everyone who voiced pride in their accomplishments, as this too assisted us to heal our wounds by witnessing the skill of the students.

I am very pleased and wish to congratulate and express my pride in their continued advancement, as events such as these, Mr. Speaker, allow us to be able to express our pride in their accomplishments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Hon. Deputy Mayor, Ms. Gross.

**An Hon. Member:** Deputy Premier.

>> *Laughter*

#### **Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions**

##### **Return to Oral Question 002 – 6(1): Nunavut-Manitoba Relations**

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the opportunity to supplement Premier Akeagok's response to an oral question on March 7, 2022 from the Baker Lake MLA. It is with respect to the revitalization of the Hudson Bay Regional Roundtable and which ministers would represent the Government of Nunavut's interests.

The Hudson Bay roundtable has always been a grassroots table, championed by mayors, particularly the Mayor of Churchill, Manitoba. The objective was to coordinate efforts and advance issues of mutual concern between communities in northern Manitoba and the Kivalliq.

The last roundtable was in 2018, where there was involvement by the Government of Nunavut, Government of Manitoba, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, as well as elected leaders and senior officials in 12 member communities from the Kivalliq region of Nunavut and northern Manitoba.

Since 2018 there was little political will or capacity to move forward with involvement in the consortium as the Government of Nunavut has funding programs to support interaction and collaboration among communities and regions.

If leaders in the Kivalliq are still interested in regrouping with the Hudson Bay Regional Roundtable, the Government of Nunavut would welcome

a proposal on how we can work with the municipalities to support them. Pending on the issues at hand, the Government of Nunavut would assign its ministers based on alignment between the agenda and the ministerial portfolios. *Quana*, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, our Hon. Deputy Premier, Ms. Gross. Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

#### **Return to Oral Question 064 – 6(1): Labour Market Programs**

**Hon. Margaret Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to supplement an answer I gave during question period on March 14, 2022. The Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk requested information on whether students pursuing training under the Literacy and Essential Skills for the Trades Program in partnership with Frontier College were eligible for Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students (FANS).

Mr. Speaker, FANS provides funding for programs that are a year or longer. Students seeking financial assistance for shorter programs are eligible to apply for Adult Learning and Training Supports (ALTS). (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Item 5. As we are closed to the public, there is no recognition of visitors in the gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

#### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

#### **Question 100 – 6(1): Tabling Ministerial Handbook**

**Mr. Savikataaq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the people of Arviat, I say “good day” to you.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, earlier in the sitting here there have been some allegations of conflict of interest happening with ministers and we have a lot of new members that are here that aren’t familiar with the procedures and what the ministers’ roles are, what their limitations are, and what their duties are. I would like to ask the acting Premier if the Premier would table the latest version of the Ministerial Administration Procedure Manual, what the ministers are guided by. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Deputy Premier, Ms. Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Speaker. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. No, that will not be happening. *Quana*, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary question, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was not the answer I was expecting, but I’ll go on. Can the acting Premier explain to all of us regular members here why the acting Premier will not table the Ministerial Administration Procedure Manual? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Deputy Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Speaker. *Quana* to the member for the

question. That is an internal document within the government. *Quana*, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the last Assembly, every regular MLA was given a copy of the manual. Will the Acting Premier give all the regular members a copy of the Ministerial Administration Procedure Manual? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Deputy Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Speaker. *Quana* once again for the question. The previous government didn't table the document, but we will look into it. *Quana*, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

### **Question 101 – 6(1): Advocating for Our Elders**

**Ms. Brewster** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) That was my hint that I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, in my member's statement, I spoke of the need for the voices of our elders and their family members to be heard when decisions are being made with respect to their care.

Can the minister clearly explain what policies are in place to ensure that family members and elders are fully informed and involved in decisions being made

with respect to elder health care? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the member for asking a question on that. We all know that we have elders at our highest priority in the Department of Health, and my colleagues probably feel the same way. There are different policies that have to do with the elders.

If we're going to be talking about elders, maybe there are too many policies that have to do with elders. I won't read all of them, but I can say that the families and the elders are always involved when decisions are being made with respect to their care as to how they're going to get helped. We're always working together to help make the decision.

The families are always involved, but what I have noticed and I have seen that sometimes within the family unit, there is a lack of communication or disagreements. As the Department of Health, we can't do anything about what's happening within their families. We can't be an authority figure when it has to do with internal family affairs.

I don't think I answered the question properly, but I'm sure the member will have more questions on the matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you for your response, minister. I know that as a family member it can be difficult to

coordinate thoughts and understandings of elder care within our family.

Mr. Speaker, it has been brought to my attention that when elders are being relocated to facilities outside of their home community, family members are not always made aware of the operational policies and procedures at the facility where their loved one is placed.

Can the minister clearly describe what steps are taken to ensure that family members receive adequate information regarding the relocation of their family member? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) *Ma'na* to the member for the question. In terms of what the department does when we're looking at a relocation or moving an elder into a facility, for example, one thing that the department does is physically bring either the guardian or a family member with the elder to help them to move into the facility or to get to know the facility to help them transition because it can be very difficult to go from one community or one living situation to another.

The primary contact for the department is the legal guardian or the elder themselves, if they are capable of making their own decisions, and we rely on the legal guardian or the elder, if they are their own decision-maker, to take the information they have received and then share it within the family.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, as you can imagine, there are some very large families and from

the Department of Health's perspective, we're not in a position where we are able to provide copies of policies and procedures and information to every single family member in terms of a relocation or the new information that the family has to understand, but we do our utmost to involve, to inform, to establish a dialogue for the best care of our elders. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Minister, for that response. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the government is working on a long-term Elder Care Strategy and that this strategy will cover many aspects of delivering care and services to our elders. While I appreciate that this strategy will require expert input from health professionals and health practitioners, I feel it equally important that full consideration be given to incorporating Inuit culture and *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*.

Will the minister commit to ensuring that Inuit cultural representatives have input into the long-term Elder Care Strategy and that their voices will be heard and reflected in the final strategy document? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) *Ma'na* to the member. Yes, I can commit to that. I appreciate the member's question because I think it highlights that elder care is much larger than just the Department of Health. Elder care encompasses priorities such

as purpose-built housing, prevention of elder abuse, cultural considerations and benefits for low-income seniors.

I stand here as Minister of Health and look over to the Minister responsible for Seniors, Ms. Quassa, who I believe brings a wealth of experience to the file and I look forward to working with my colleagues on the cabinet as well as my colleagues on the other side of the House on that long-term strategy.  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Uqummiut, Ms. Killiktee.

**Question 102 – 6(1): Escorts for Elders**

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the same minister.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, as I noted in my member's statement, the Department of Health has changed its Medical Travel Policy to address concerns related to the COVID pandemic. One of those changes has impacted the eligibility for elders to have escorts.

Now that we are transitioning to living with COVID, can the minister provide an update on when he anticipates introducing a revised Medical Client Escort Policy? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. (interpretation ends) In terms of the revised policy, I can't provide a firm timeline on when we would repeal the temporary amendments to the policy around elder escorts.

Right before the pandemic happened in 2020, the Department of Health was just in the process of completing a Medical Travel Policy review and that policy review was focused on improving the medical travel experience for clients and escorts. It was right before COVID happened that that review process was moving into the implementation phase, and then of course, as we all know, COVID happened and messed the process up, set us back several years in fact, but we are keeping a close eye on the COVID situation.

We're moving towards ending the public health emergency as of the middle of April and if that happens as planned, we should be in a position to repeal the temporary amendments around escorts shortly after. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you. I am looking forward to that and I am proud of your work.

With this as well, (interpretation ends) I have been made aware that when elders are in a care home or a boarding home and are sent by ambulance to the hospital, an escort is not always provided. When they arrive at the hospital, they may not have anyone to

assist them, to support them or, if necessary, to interpret for them.

Can the minister clarify what policies are in place to ensure that a support person will be available to accompany elders who may be sent to the hospital?  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, member, for that question. (interpretation ends) It depends on the scenario. Based on the way the question was phrased, there are a couple of different scenarios that come to mind. The member mentioned elders in care and I'm not sure; it might be referencing a recent open letter that was published in terms of elder care from a local group.

The Department of Health is committed to making sure that elders' needs are met and if they're on medical travel and they need to go to the hospital and they're unilingual, we make sure that there is an interpreter available. They're under our responsibility, I guess, in terms of medical travel.

In terms of elders in care, if they're at an institution in the south, I would have to look at in terms of what policies would apply because it might be a bit of a jurisdictional issue, but jurisdictional issues are not something to hide behind. The Department of Health is fully committed to making sure that the needs and if there is a gap, we can look into that and make sure that it's addressed.  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, he is right that there has to be some form of adjustments.

Lastly, (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the government is developing an Elder Care Strategy and I look forward to reviewing it when it is finalized. It is my hope that the issue of escorts and elder support is addressed in that strategy.

Will the minister commit to ensuring that when his department updates its Medical Client Policy, it will provide all elders with the eligibility to have an escort when they travel to receive medical services? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the member for that question. (interpretation ends) On the medical travel program review that I mentioned earlier, it was focused on improving travel experience for clients and escorts. In terms of the member's question, I would hope that there would be improvements to the escort topic that would come through as part of that process.

As I mentioned, unfortunately it was delayed due to COVID. Hopefully we will get it back on track and see where we can make more improvements to the policy. At the end of the day it's all about our clients, it's all about their travel experience and making sure that they're comfortable and their needs are looked after, whether they're elders or no matter what age they are.

Mr. Speaker, I can commit to looking into the member's concern. However, I can't give a hard commitment on guaranteeing escorts for categories of travellers at this time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Ms. Nutarak.

**Question 103 – 6(1): Community-based Elder Care**

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the Department of Health's home care program, and I believe home care workers provide a vitally important community service. I thank them for their work.

Can the minister provide an update on the current status of home care programs across the territory and indicate whether every Nunavut community currently has a home care worker? Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I keep getting up.

>> *Laughter*

I thank the member for asking a question on that. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Home and Community Care Program provides health care and support services based on assessed

needs, in the comfort of an individual's home. Mr. Speaker, this is an important program and it's important for our clients.

In terms of the number of home care clients, the latest statistic available from the department was 1,402 home care clients, so the demand is definitely there and the trend is up year over year in terms of the home care demand for services.

In terms of the member's question, I have a detailed list of workers by community. It appears that most Nunavut communities have at least one home care worker, but I can verify that, go through this list on my own time and commit to get back to the member on that specific enquiry. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as I noted in my member's statement, home care workers can provide a significant level of support to enable elders to age at home in their community, surrounded by family and friends. Can the minister tell us what steps are being taken to recruit and train individuals to provide home care services in their home community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Before I answer the question, I'll just mention that there are six home care workers currently in Pond Inlet. I'm just

guessing that might be of interest to the member.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, when it comes to education and training, prior to the pandemic, we worked with Nunavut Arctic College to deliver modular courses. Typically they were of 10-day duration in different communities across the territory, and so that was part of making sure that our workforce is available to deliver the services needed.

However, with the onset of the pandemic in 2020, providing face-to-face education and training has ceased, but as I indicated earlier, we're hoping, the way things are going with the pandemic, to get rolling again with the face-to-face education and training.

As for the recruitment, that's ongoing. Where there is an identified need in a community, the department has the ability to bring on additional staff to meet those needs. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues have mentioned, we are all looking forward to the government bringing forward its long-term Elder Care Strategy. Will the minister commit to incorporating an enhanced home care program into the Elders' Care Strategy to ensure that elders are able to age in their home communities for as long as possible? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I can't commit to put things in the strategy because the strategy will be based around extensive consultation and so really, the contents of the final product will depend on what input or what the desire or the results of the consultation process is, but I do thank the member for the question.

The elder care is much more than facilities and long-term care. There is a lot of importance around services and keeping elders where they are the most comfortable, in their own homes, maybe next door to one of their family members. In that line, it's something that I anticipate will be included as part of the development of that strategy and rightly so because it's very important. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**An Hon. Member:** Hear, hear!

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

#### **Question 104 – 6(1): Poverty Reduction**

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and to the people of Baker Lake.

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

Mr. Speaker, I note that the most recent report on poverty reduction was tabled in September 2021 and covers to period from 2019 to 2021.

The COVID pandemic has put extra stresses on all of us, including those who

face food insecurity, homelessness, and conditions of poverty.

Can the minister clearly provide an update on the current activities of the Poverty Reduction Division? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Hon. Margaret Nakashuk**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking that question. Related to that question, there are different committee members involved in managing this (interpretation ends) poverty reduction initiative (interpretation) from various bodies.

We have members from Family Services, NTI, and the three main parties meet in different communities, to review the challenges faced by our communities in relation to this initiative, all the while considering various factors such as food insecurity, homelessness, and the limitations we face here in Nunavut.

This committee has three members who play different roles under the mandate, and this work is ongoing to date, to try to deal with the issues. As the member mentioned, there is a report that was released, however, parts of the recommendations have not been implemented, so this is the status today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for your response. Mr. Speaker, in reading this report, I

note that the last Roundtable for Poverty Reduction was held in Cambridge Bay in 2019.

Can the minister tell us when she anticipates the next roundtable will be held, where it will be held and who will be invited to participate? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Hon. Margaret Nakashuk**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will check this out more thoroughly and after researching this issue, I should be able to provide a more detailed response. Due to the previous restrictions, things were slowing down especially meetings amongst the members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for the commitment. Mr. Speaker, that report lists a number of government initiatives and funding programs.

It is important to know whether the outcomes of these programs and initiatives have been met and whether the responsible entities have succeeded in their objectives. This information should be used to determine best practices, next steps, and where changes need to occur.

Will the minister commit to tabling an updated report on Poverty Reduction and, if so, when does she anticipate tabling it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Hon. Margaret Nakashuk**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question and related to his commentary, the (interpretation ends) poverty reduction (interpretation) work undertaken by the committee, are as I alluded to earlier, are varied and different.

Additionally, with the urgency placed on us by this pandemic, we provided funding to the communities to deal with food insecurity concerns, and to have food baskets available, but there was no longer term plan at the time, although they are now in the works. We will continue to work with our partners and NTI on these issues, and regarding that previous report, we anticipate the completion by spring 2022 and related to his question about future meetings, we expect the meeting to commence in the summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Malliki.

**Question 105 – 6(1): Community Transportation Initiatives Program**

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

(interpretation ends) I would like to revisit the issue of the new community trail near Naujaat. Mr. Speaker, last week the federal announcement concerning the new community trail indicates that the Government of

Nunavut will provide \$125,000 towards the project.

Can the minister confirm if the formal contribution agreement with the Municipality of Naujaat has been signed under this department's Community Transportation Initiative Program? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Naujaat for the question. Now, with regards to that community access road, I was in Naujaat over the summer twice, which was awesome as residents were hospitable and welcoming.

I went to see for myself and tried to go on the trail, but I believe we only went 10 feet along the trail where it ended, so it would be good to see it completed and lengthened. I believe we contributed \$75,000 to Naujaat's hamlet for this community access road, and we signed off on the contribution agreement.

With respect to additional funding, that will be dealt with as the application moves through the approval process, following the most recent announcement, there will be more funds available in the new fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his response.

(interpretation ends) Last week the federal announcement concerning the new Naujaat community trail indicated that the total cost of the project will be \$400,000. Can the minister confirm if all of the funding will be provided during the current 2021-22 fiscal year?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the federal government make an announcement indicating that they will be providing funds, it is only afterward that we negotiate the terms within the agreement and what the funds will be used for. We are still waiting for the negotiations to be completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary question, Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As I noted in my previous questions to the minister earlier, this week it is my understanding that his department has had discussions with North Arrow Minerals concerning the development of community access road to the location of Naujaat Diamond Project.

It is my understanding that funding would come from the Department's Community Transportation Initiative program. Can the minister confirm what discussions have taken place between his department and North Arrow Minerals? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the access roads, there's usually an agreement between the parties. It's usually between the developer and the hamlet council. If they had discussions North Arrow Minerals regarding the access road the access road funding goes through the hamlet councils, which could be used for access roads or towards other improvements in the community.

I have not had discussions with North Arrow Minerals. I will make sure to get further information on what discussions have taken place to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Sammurtok.

#### **Question 106 – 6(1): Future Need for Kivalliq Medical Boarding Home**

**Mr. Sammurtok** (interpretation): Good afternoon, people of Chesterfield Inlet and Rankin Inlet. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue addressing the need for a medical boarding home for the Kivalliq region and why that facility should be based in Rankin Inlet.

In reviewing the *Hansard* of March 10, in response to my questions on this issue the minister suggested that there has been a review on the flexibility of

establishing a medical boarding home in Kivalliq.

Would the minister agree to providing the results of that review to the members of the Legislative Assembly before the end of this sitting? (interpretation)  
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Health, Minister Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking that question. Regarding the review I announced previously, it was an internal health report, and I will not be tabling it in the House.

Neither do I believe that it will be released as patient confidentiality is involved and medical patients travelling through Rankin Inlet to attend to medical appointments and the scheduling is done by the Department of Health and currently, they are being boarded in local hotels.

When done in this manner, the local (interpretation ends) business owners (interpretation) receive more income so this is one benefit we can speak to. At this time, with respect to the members' question about a boarding home, we have not thought of building one in Rankin Inlet currently. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary question, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister did state that, on average, about four medical travellers per night stay in Rankin Inlet which is

why such commercial accommodations as hotels are used.

However, it is also the case that the Department of Health brings in medical specialists to provide clinics and medical travellers from the outlying Kivalliq communities come in to Rankin Inlet to meet with the specialists.

Can the minister confirm that his department will resume providing specialist clinics at the Kivalliq Regional Health Centre now that COVID restrictions are easing across Nunavut and across Canada? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)  
In terms of the member's question, if things stay on track with the pandemic and we continue moving towards less restrictions, yes, we can anticipate more specialist clinics. However, another thing that has to be considered is the potential for the Department of Health to send the specialists to the community level, which is something that has been piloted recently here in the Qikiqtaaluk region. As you can imagine, it has the potential to really change the demand for boarding home bed nights in the regional centre.

Mr. Speaker, another thing that has to be considered here is the potential for individuals to stay with private billets. *Uqaqtitsijii*, the rate for private accommodations, staying with a friend or family member, has recently been increased. In Rankin Inlet the nightly rate is now \$133. That's up from the previous \$50. Potentially that could

mean less medical travellers wanting to stay in boarding homes and maybe wanting to stay with private billets. There are several moving pieces here to consider. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's great to hear that the private accommodations have risen; it's about time too, I guess.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the need for a medical boarding home for the Kivalliq region is growing.

There are currently two full-time doctors providing services at the Kivalliq Regional Health Centre in Rankin Inlet. More specialist clinics will be necessary to meet the pent-up demand for health services, especially after the COVID pandemic. Our populations are growing and the demand for health services is growing.

Will the minister commit to reconsidering the establishment of a medical boarding home in the community of Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have been asked to make a lot of commitments here, Mr. Speaker, as I do have to be careful with what I say.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to medical travel, the Department of Health is fully committed to making sure that our

medical travellers' needs are met, and currently when they travel to Rankin Inlet, their needs are met with private accommodations. Mr. Speaker, we prefer to put them in hotels that have restaurants and there is a list, and when the hotels without restaurants are the only choice, the guests are put in there.

Mr. Speaker, there is a lot to be considered. There are a lot of moving pieces. It's not just as simple as plunking a boarding home into a community. At this point I'm not going to commit as to the member's question respectfully. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Quqqiaq.

#### **Question 107 – 6(1): Polar Bear Management in the Kitikmeot**

**Mr. Quqqiaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment and they concern the issue of polar bear management.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, the Gulf of Boothia and M'Clintock Channel polar bear subpopulations are important to my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, during the previous Legislative Assembly's sitting of September 23, 2020, the House was informed that these two populations are "currently healthy."

Mr. Speaker, can the minister confirm his department's current estimates for these two subpopulations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for questioning these. For the M'Clintock Channel polar bears, the latest abundance estimate is 716 bears, which is being considered healthy; for the Gulf of Boothia, the new abundance estimate is at 1,525, which is also healthy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Mr. Quqqiaq.

**Mr. Quqqiaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, his department made recommendations last year to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board concerning the total allowable harvests for the M'Clintock Channel and Gulf of Boothia polar bear subpopulations.

Mr. Speaker, for the record, can the minister confirm what the current total allowable harvests are for each subpopulation and can he indicate if his department plans to recommend any changes to them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The M'Clintock Channel has already been increased. It went from 12 total allowable harvests to 21. That one has been increased. For the Gulf of Boothia, the recommendation was for 74 total allowable harvests.

Right now, from what I understand, the decision hasn't been made yet because the polar bear harvest administration and credit calculation system was brought before the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and they need to

make some determinations before we finalize on the Gulf of Boothia total allowable harvest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Mr. Quqqiaq.

**Mr. Quqqiaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate how his department is currently working with the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board on polar bear management initiatives? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Environment, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I applaud the department and I applaud the wildlife boards, the regional wildlife boards and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and all the stakeholders. They work very closely together on these and I can speak really highly of our regional boards of working very closely with our departments. When a total allowable harvest decision has been made, it is up to the regional boards how those are going to be distributed and we collaborate with them very closely, but we also follow what the hunters and trappers organizations would like to see in their respective communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerck.

#### **Question 108 – 6(1): Community Justice Committees**

**Mr. Kaernerck** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Amittuq and colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Justice and it concerns families and the current *Family Abuse Intervention Act*.

This is particularly when they are placed on the court docket and under the current *Family Abuse Intervention Act*, where they are no longer allowed to see their family members due to the court and police orders. How are the local justice committees involved or are they responsible for adhering to this legislation?

Who gives the details, is it the RCMP when they charge the person, do they go directly to the Justice committee, or do they have to wait for the judge to provide further direction? The reason I ask this question is that the actual waiting period is extremely stressful, and I imagine causes much consternation.

How do they deal with people who are charged with family violence? Do the RCMP identify that they have an option to go before the committee, and not through the court system? That will be my first question, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that pertinent question, and at this time, I can respond that there are two parts involved in that process.

If the police are involved from the outset, then it must be dealt with by the court system. Now, they can also go to the local Justice committee who can recommend that there be an order to keep them separated until the court date.

Now, the other issue the member alluded to, was the legislation he mentioned which I believe is a piece of good legislation that pertains to families, and prior to the case being dealt with by the court, they can also consult one another to determine if there is a way to resolve the family issues, prior to the matter being handed over to the police.

The police can also be involved in this decision related to the case, and if that happens, I am aware that this legislation has been followed previously to deal with each case, nonetheless, if the police arrest the person, then it must go through the court system. The justice committee can also recommend another course of action, then they would try to follow that recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Mr. Kaernerck.

**Mr. Kaernerck** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, indeed that is unfortunate that arrests and the courts take precedence over cases, as many people are put on the court dockets while the justice committees are usually a second thought, even though they could be involved at the outset. I dislike the notion of family separation orders.

My question to the minister then is when people are charged and placed on the court docket, when they are given the paper listing the charges, then they usually go to the local court liaison or (interpretation ends) community justice outreach worker (interpretation) and when a no contact order is in place, if they go that route and receive a (interpretation ends) community intervention order (interpretation) as this

is to ensure that no contact occurs between the individuals.

When people are charged, and they receive this intervention order and relay it to the police, then would they wait until the court date to implement it, or would the couple not be allowed to contact each other? Can this be properly enforced as it was a made-in- Nunavut legislation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Justice, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the staff locally would be involved in this process to determine what measures if any, are to be handed out prior to the court dates. This applies when they are charged, or alternatively, prior to the charges being laid, the justice committee can collaborate with the police, which is preferable.

We would prefer that the justice committees be involved, and to have people approach them when they are charged, as they can deal with certain conditions as they would investigate the circumstances and if no contact seems to be the best outcome, then that would be done. They can also be allowed to see one another, as each case is dealt with uniquely.

Our outreach workers are constantly working to deal with the residents under the court system, and they can handle it either through the court system or with the local justice committee. The workers determine which route is the best for each case, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary question, Mr. Kaerner.

**Mr. Kaerner** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for the clarification. What about cases that happen where an emergency order is required to intervene in the situation, where the community intervention orders are handled very quickly? Perhaps I will instead ask the question in English. Go to channel 2.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like a number for the Amittuq region or Nunavut-wide, if there is any number under the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*, if there is any number that has been requested for emergency protection orders or a community intervention order, how many couples have those orders under the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Justice, Mr. David Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Between April 1, 2020 and July 21, 2021, Igloolik had one emergency order which was requested, and in Hall Beach similarly, one order was given. In English it is called (interpretation ends) an Emergency Protection Order. (interpretation) I don't believe the community intervention order has been utilized as yet between the dates I highlighted. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

**Question 109 – 6(1): Recall of Medical Equipment**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Many people are that sleep apnea is a quite serious condition and can be life shortening. A while back I was copied on correspondence that was addressed to the Department of Health. I'm sure the minister is very aware that as of June 24, 2021 all Philips brand CPAP and Bilevel pap devices manufactured before April 26, 2021 had been recalled.

Mr. Speaker, in that correspondence, the contractor that the Government of Nunavut has hired to administer this service has stated that they can't do anything in the meantime. What is the department doing to contact Nunavummiut who were supplied this medical equipment by the Government of Nunavut? It has been now nine months since this recall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you (interpretation ends) for the question, to the member. Yes, sleep apnea is serious condition. To my knowledge it can wide ranging effects on an individual's health, and so I would encourage all Nunavummiut who may have sleep apnea, either in their family or in somebody they know, to consult a healthcare professional to get either a sleep study done, or to determine whether it is something you would benefit from.

With regard to the question in terms of the recall, I do not have that information

in front of me, but I can commit to looking into and getting back to the member regarding that recall. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister may not have this level of detail, but he can comment on the second part of it. My first part of the question is: how many units of this type have been supplied to Nunavut residents and when will they be informed of the seriousness of this recall? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I can't comment to that level of detail. I do not have the number of devices, but as I committed earlier, I can look into that. In terms of when, they would be notified as soon as possible. If it is a serious matter that warrants immediate attention, we would do that as soon as possible. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel very lucky to get another commitment that the minister has made today.

Mr. Speaker, in that same correspondence from Nunavut residents, the invoice for their machine was over \$3,000, yet they stated that when they searched online, they found the same machine was available for \$700.

Mr. Speaker how much of that over \$3,000 would be covered by Non-Insured Health Benefits for eligible clients, and would other Nunavummiut be charged over \$3,000 for a piece of equipment that they could purchase themselves for \$700? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Going into the world of procurement is something that I'm not able to do in terms of the specific question, but that price differential does sound quite substantial. I would hate to see any of our medical clients being provided with invoices that are unreasonable or uncompetitive.

As part of my commitment to the member that I'll look into this, I can examine the issue of pricing as well to make sure that Nunavummiut are not being overcharged or provided unfair pricing for medical devices. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Anavilok.

### **Question 110 – 6(1): Kugluktuk Airport Terminal Building**

**Mr. Anavilok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, people of Kugluktuk, Nunavummiut, and Members of the Legislative Assembly. My question is regarding the airport terminal building in Kugluktuk.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and

Transportation, and they concern the issue of Kugluktuk's new airport terminal building.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, a large portion of the funding for this project is coming from the federal Trade and Transportation Corridors Initiative.

On May 5, 2021 the department issued a request for tender for the construction of a new airport terminal building in Kugluktuk. The tender closed on June 11, 2021. On August 5, 2021 the government cancelled the tender.

Mr. Speaker, on August 9, 2021 the federal Minister of Transport announced "...a top-up to the initial major investment of \$22.5 million in 2018 for five airport terminals in Kugluktuk, Naujaat, Kimmirut, Whale Cove and Chesterfield Inlet."

Can the minister clarify when a new tender for the construction of Kugluktuk's new airport terminal building will be issued? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. Mr. Speaker, we will be issuing those tenders shortly. We still have to come before the House for some more funding to top up, as my colleague had said, the previous tenders that were pulled back last year. Mr. Speaker, as soon as we complete all that, we will be putting out a tender for those projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Mr. Anavilok.

**Mr. Anavilok** (interpretation): Thank you, minister, for the response. (interpretation ends) Can the minister clarify if his department plans to issue a separate tender for Kugluktuk's new airport terminal building or will it be combined with tenders for the other airport terminal buildings? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding of it is that it will be tendered separately. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Mr. Anavilok.

**Mr. Anavilok** (interpretation): I thank the minister for the response. (interpretation ends) As the minister is aware, the original tender for Kugluktuk's new airport terminal building included a 40 percent Inuit labour requirement. Can the minister clarify if this requirement will change in the next tender? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not that I'm aware of, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Qavvik.

### **Question 111 – 6(1): Banking Services in Smaller Communities**

**Mr. Qavvik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Finance and they concern the issue of banking services in smaller communities.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, the Government of Nunavut's 2016 Request for Proposals for Banking Services asked potential service providers to "outline the details of a community banking program" that would "expand and maximize the level of banking services available to residents of Nunavut, especially in communities where physical banking operations do not exist."

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the Royal Bank, which provides services to the Government of Nunavut, has opened three new "agency outlets" in Kinngait, Pangnirtung, and Arviat in recent years.

Can the minister describe what discussions his department is having with the bank to open additional facilities in our smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for the question. Mr. Speaker, the member is correct; in 2016 the Government of Nunavut signed a 10-year contract with the Royal Bank of

Canada to provide banking services and as part of this agreement, the Government of Nunavut leveraged a contract for banking services with the RBC in which the RBC agreed to expand the availability of banking services for at least three communities.

Mr. Speaker, currently 9 of 25 communities in Nunavut have at least one physical bank, and the RBC has been in discussions with the Municipality of Igloolik to add another location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary, Mr. Qavvik.

**Mr. Qavvik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not hear a response, so I'll repeat my question. Can the minister describe what discussions his department is having with the bank to open additional facilities in our smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Finance, Mr. Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My apologies to the member.

To provide additional information, since the signing of the 2016 banking services agreement, the RBC has opened up three physical banking locations: one in Arviat which opened in 2018, one in Pangnirtung which opened in 2019, and one in Kinngait which just recently opened within the last year. Mr. Speaker, the Royal Bank of Canada has met its obligations to expand its physical banking locations and provide additional services to Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, as far as I'm aware, there are no further discussions occurring between the Department of Finance and the RBC, but it doesn't necessarily mean that the RBC or other banking institutions such as the CIBC or the First Nations Bank is not currently planning on expanding to new locations in other communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your second and final supplementary, Mr. Qavvik.

**Mr. Qavvik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate what discussions he has had with entities such as Canada Post to explore the possibility of expanding their presence in Nunavut to include basic financial services? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Finance, Mr. Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As far as I'm aware, the Department of Finance has not had any discussions with Canada Post to expand their financial services into communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

### **Question 112 – 6(1): Arctic Security and Sovereignty**

**Ms. Brewster:** *Quana*, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Acting Premier and they concern the issue of arctic security and sovereignty.

I want to begin by thanking the Acting Premier for tabling the recent tri-territorial letter to the Prime Minister. It

contained important information that all members needed to see.

My first question concerns the subject of sanctions and support to the victims of aggression.

In their letter, all three premiers wrote that the territorial governments support the federal government sanctions on Russia and have been seeking ways that we can assist as individual governments.

Mr. Speaker, I do applaud our government's financial support to the Red Cross for humanitarian relief to the people of Ukraine.

Can the Acting Premier indicate what other specific actions are under consideration? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Deputy Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Speaker. *Quana* to our colleague for the question on arctic sovereignty. We know that this is one topic that we're working closely on with our federal and territorial colleagues, but I would like to take this question as notice. *Quana*, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Question taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

### **Question 113 – 6(1): Ministerial Handbook**

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for recognizing me the second time. Mr. Speaker, my questions are again for the Acting Premier.

Mr. Speaker, it was regrettable that the Acting Premier did not want to table the Ministerial Administrative Procedures Manual, as we thought that this would be a transparent government that is open and inclusive to all of us.

I'll ask the Premier: have there been any updates or revisions to the manual since this new government was formed?  
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Deputy Premier of Nunavut, Ms. Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Speaker. *Quana* to the member for the question. There haven't been any updates as far as I'm aware, but we will get back to the members at a later time and I'll take the question as notice. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Speaker:** The question has been taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

### **Question 114 – 6(1): Medical Travel**

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I want to ask the Minister of Health and some of ministers also to stand up.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am wondering about additional medical supports for medical travellers that end up in a totally different region. I'll use the example of coming here to Iqaluit for medical and they end up flying over Rankin Inlet due to weather, and they end up in Yellowknife- which actually happened last month. Upon arriving in Yellowknife, the patients contacted

medical travel. They did get a room at Super 8 but they were advised that they had to get to the hotel on their own. Fortunately, my constituents did have enough money to get a taxi to the hotel. But, I am wondering about those that are not as fortunate.

I'm wondering what supports the Department of Health can have for all medical travellers to ensure they are transported to their place of where they going to stay for the duration they are stuck in a different region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. I don't mind standing up and down all day.

Those that travel on medical travel within the territory or externally, we wish them well in their travels and not to be too tired, those kinds of considerations.

(interpretation) We do have a boarding home in Yellowknife, Larga Kitikmeot, but based on the question it sounds like the travellers were directed to a hotel. We do have toll-free numbers for medical travel. There's three numbers. In terms of the Kivalliq region the toll free number is 1-844-886-8020.

As well as, I mentioned it yesterday, the Office of Patient Relations does take complaints after the fact or deals with issues. This sounds like an issue where there could be perhaps an inquiry put in and we could work on filling the gap if there is one.

As well, I believe that the Super 8 hotel may have a shuttle service that they could have helped out with. But, I apologize to the constituents of the member if they were inconvenienced during their medical travel.  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Your first supplementary question, Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for your response. It kind of sounded like you were making a commitment to look into it, which I'm glad about, all the commitments you're making today.

Another concern, same thing if they're stuck in a different region and they end up staying at Super 8, which does not have a restaurant, they do provide breakfast, but lunch and supper would be on their own.

Will the minister commit to ensuring medical travellers will be given three square meals a day, whether that's at a restaurant or the Kitikmeot Larga?  
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister of Health, Minister Main.

**Hon. John Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I've stayed at the Super 8 and I can say that the complimentary breakfast is quite enjoyable.  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(interpretation ends) But, in terms of the medical travellers' need for nourishment there are provisions in place depending on where they're staying. Sometimes it's a voucher system, where they're

provided vouchers and can get meals at the hotel restaurant or in some circumstances, I'm thinking of Winnipeg specifically where patients are actually brought to the boarding home to have their meals.

In terms of Yellowknife, I can commit to looking into that further and seeing if there are any gaps that need to be filled for our medical travellers.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Members, be aware that the time allotted for question period is now over. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 1, 2, and 3 with Mr. Hickes in the Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

*>>House recessed at 15:21 and  
Committee resumed at 15:46*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Hickes): Thank you. I would like to call the committee meeting

to order, please. In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bills 1, 2, 3, and I believe 4 is on the order paper now as well. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of the 2022-23 capital estimates, Bill 2, and we will deal with the Department of Finance, followed by Arctic College and the energy corporation. We also wish to deal with the Department of Economic Development and Transportation and, if time permits, the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

### **Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2022-2023 – Finance – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Malliki. Minister Lightstone, do you have any officials that you would like to appear before the committee?

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like to request Deputy Minister Chown as well as Comptroller General Ms. Susan Nichols.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. I don't have to proceed with the formality of it; you have introduced your witnesses. The last name I had on my list yesterday was Ms. Killiktee. Please proceed.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions were relating to...in English. (interpretation ends) Why did your department not undertake a planning study before proposing a new capital project of this magnitude? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for the question. The Department of Community and Government Services utilizes planning studies specifically for major capital projects and the intention behind that type of planning and preplanning is to ensure advanced technical specifications and requirements are established in advance of putting forward a capital request specific, such as specifications of the building, the location of the building, and such. In essence, CGS planning is typically used for major tangible capital projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to better understand is why I am asking. I have concerns. On the substantiation sheet it states that it relates to your department, and it says training to attain (interpretation ends) “Higher skilled resources.”

(interpretation) It is written there, and I am very concerned about this statement, perhaps I will be misunderstood, but I want to be clear in my question, however, if I am asking about that matter where it isn’t just off the top of my head, but so I can completely understand the written material, hence my wish to query you about it.

This relates to the areas listed for reform or improvements, and I too, and delighted to see that in the material. However, what I find problematic is the area related to the human resource function, and the qualifications required.

I want to hear about when employees resign, where the exit surveys are undertaken and whether it leads to improvements.

Perhaps the person may not wish to speak to some of the issues, although this practice can lead to newer approaches and is something that should be recognized. With this being the accepted requirement, have you negotiated with Arctic College to develop more courses and I wanted to ask about it.

I would like to see courses offered up here in the North, and to have this course completed by our employees so we can retain more employees, as an example, Inuit would be encouraged to work, as we need to reach the proportional level as legislated, and to prioritize that within Nunavut. I have heard this sentiment expressed before, about the need for more hires for many years now.

That is the reason why I am deeply concerned about this, and I would like your support to help me better understand the situation, which is why I wanted to ask about it and to allow our government to reach that proportional level we are supposed to implement. I believe certain courses are required for all employees in the Arctic related to new and improved human resource initiatives, where improvements are ready to upgrade our current system. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for the question. What we are looking for is a more advanced ERP

system, a financial and human resource information system which will be more user friendly and easier for our employees to utilize.

The Department of Finance currently has a number of positions in the financial management development program division, which has a goal of strengthening the knowledge of employees in financial positions and plan is to use this financial management development program to assist our employees who are currently using our outdated systems with the training as they transition to the new software, and once we have established training modules, the Department of Finance will partner with the Public Service Training Division of the Department of Human Resources to assist with ongoing training of employees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for the clarification. I want to reiterate, and I mention it as someone who represents a smaller community, which is something we tend to fall back on. When you have been involved in various types of employment or workplaces, it can be very unappetizing to see the gaps.

It can literally be saddening to see qualified and eligible workers who are not screened simply because they do not have a computer background, and out of all their skills and abilities, that may be the only reason why that person is not hired for a position, when they are qualified to do every other function listed in the job position.

Many times, it is that one single inability I mentioned, not being familiar with digital or computer systems that disqualify an experienced and able person from being hired. This has been the case many times, where a more qualified worker is not hired since they do not have any computer skills for the office environment, and I have seen that firsthand.

I wanted to comment on that, and it is not really a question as it relates to older people being trained to work in a digital environment, perhaps through the Arctic College, for both word and excel type of training courses that are needed. I feel this area needs strengthening, hence my ongoing commentary as I need to unload my deep concerns related to this matter.

It's not a question but more of a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Did the minister want to respond to the comment? Go ahead Minister Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for the question; I understand where you're coming from. One initiative that I would like to highlight is the Department of Human Resources has recently launched the Human Resources Practitioner Program which is available to individuals who are working in the human resources field to work together and form somewhat of a cohort to study in partnership together as they work towards securing their human resources certification. Maybe that is something that can be also explored under finance, but in relation to this ERP system, we are really hoping to have something that is much more user-friendly, much easier

to train new employees on, and provide overall improved performance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I have no more names on my list. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have very few questions to wrap up here. To the best of my knowledge, I have not seen this capital project in the five-year capital plan. When was it “concepted” and brought forward? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for the question. It is true that it was not previously in the five-year capital plan, as the five-year capital plan only includes projects that are being requested for funding in that specific first year and years going forward for those ongoing projects.

I was going to touch upon this in my closing comments, it is an honour to be here sponsoring this capital project and introducing this project into the five-year capital plan. However, I must recognize the role played by the previous Minister of Finance in initiating this project as well as the previous governments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister just elaborate on this because I didn’t quite understand, he says the reason it’s not in the five-year capital plan because it’s in the first year of a multi-year funding? I

just didn’t understand that. Thank you. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for the question. In essence, what we do here as the Assembly, is we approve the capital estimates. It is a one year budget that begins April 1 in one year and ends March 31 the next year. However, that capital estimate is part of the first year of the five-year capital plan and items included in the five-year capital plan are only current year projects and projects that are ongoing into future years beyond that year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have seen capital projects where other departments, in their five-year capital plan, had the plan where there is, for example, a school being built the following year, not in 2022-23, but they committed to putting it through in 2024. Is the minister stating that projects aren’t in the five-year capital plan until their funding is approved in the Assembly? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is correct. Items are not included into the five-year capital plan until they have official approval from the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you for updating that because I was always under the impression that you have capital plans and you plan out what's on there. Obviously you can't count on them 100 percent until the funding is approved in the Legislative Assembly, but there are plans there for each department on their capital plan on what they envision that they're going to put through to request for funding. Isn't that the five-year capital plan? I always thought that you had a five-year capital plan projected on projects that are coming forward that will be coming to the Assembly for requests for funding. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the member's confusion here. In the binders that members have before them with the detailed substantiation sheets of all of our capital projects that we were requesting funding for in these current capital estimates. We also have appendices attached. Schedules 1 and 2 at the front of the binders include details of all of the proposed projects and they're broken down into five years, and that is the details of the five-year capital plan, as you can see in schedules 1 and 2, if your binder is before you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for explaining and clarifying. I said earlier that I support this project, but it's not a \$15 million project; it's a \$41 million project and I just think that it shouldn't be taken lightly. We hear MLAs here

that they want a new community learning centre and they want school buses for their kids. There are a lot of funding requests. This is a substantial amount of money. It is \$15 million for this year and the total project is \$41 million. I hope that we stay within budget. I know the minister can't make any promise, as this is IT, but I would hate to see Finance coming back for more money because this is not what they thought it was. Thank you.

**Chairman:** It's just a comment. I don't have any more names on my list. I would just like to follow up with the response that the minister provided yesterday when he was talking about the HR component of the software. The minister had mentioned pay and benefits and different aspects that they're looking at improvement on. You did mention employee relations and I would just like to get a brief explanation on how the software is anticipated to benefit employee relations. Minister Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that was Deputy Minister Chown that used the term "employee relations" and in the context that Deputy Minister Chown was using was that having a more robust human resource information system included in an ERP would allow our human resource managers and our human resource practitioners to better allocate their time.

In essence, human resource managers have their work broken down into three categories. One being leave and attendance, which is a very manual and paper-based process which we currently have and takes up as much as twenty percent of their time.

Other matters such as Deputy Minister Chown mentioned are employee relations matters, performance reviews and so on.

And the third aspect of the HR manager's role are the more positive side of the HR functions that people-oriented side of things such as spending time with employees one on one. Finding out what their strength and weaknesses are, but more importantly what their aspirations are in developing that sort of career planning aspect, the positive side of human resources.

In response to your question, Deputy Minister Chown had made reference to employee relations aspects and he is referring to one of those three major categories of work conducted by our human resource staff in all departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you for that. Again I have no more names on my list. Centrally Administered Funds. \$15,131,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. We will stay on page C-3 after the minister's closing comments.

I will ask the Sargent-at-Arms to escort the witnesses out and prepare for the next group of witnesses that remain on the same page. Minister Lightstone.

**Hon. Adam Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank all the members for your excellent questions and the intent behind them is ensuring accountability and ensuring that this project will not lead to potentially

hazardous situations, such as the Phoenix fiasco in the federal government.

I look forward to continuing to work between the Department of Finance, Debarment of Human Resources and the Department of Community and Government Services on leading this project forward and initiating the multi-stage procurement process to receive tenders and bids for potential ERP vendors and to then moving on the second stage of procurement process and going through vigorous testing and vetting of those potential vendors to ensure that we finally narrow it down to the right system.

Again, it is an honour to be here today to introduce this ERP project into the capital plan. It is quite an honour to introduce it, but again, I must recognize the efforts of the previous Minister of Finance who initiated this project. It is hard to believe just seven years ago I was working with our Comptroller General, Susan Nichols in financial reporting as she was the director of financial reporting at the time and it was an honour to set the public accounts with Ms. Nichols, and just 10 years ago I was working in expenditure management entering budget vouchers into our FreeBalance system and it is a tremendous honour to be here today to introduce this project.

I would like to thank you all for your support on this and I look forward to having positive updates as we move forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, will you please escort the witnesses out. Members please remain in

your seats. We will be starting again with Nunavut Arctic College momentarily. Thank you.

**Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,  
2022-2023 – Nunavut Arctic  
College – Consideration in  
Committee**

**Chairman:** Thank you, members. I would like to call the committee meeting back to order. I would like to ask Minister Gross if she has any officials she would like to appear before the committee. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to request the President of the Nunavut Arctic College, Becky Mearns, and Chief Financial Officer, Nayab Khan, as well as Capital Planner, Steven Chitiyo, into the witness area. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. I will make note that the ministers continue to introduce their witnesses before approval by the committee. I would ask that they wait until the approval of the committee and I ask for the witness to be identified please.

Do members agree to allow the witnesses to appear before the committee?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. You can go right into your opening comments, Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman, and committee members. I'm pleased to present to you Nunavut Arctic College's draft 2022-23 Capital

Estimates. The college is requesting \$2.3 million for the upcoming fiscal years. The breakdown is as follows:

- \$5,000 for small capital
- \$1,500,000 for ongoing lifecycle, and
- \$300,000 for information technology infrastructure

Funds allocated for small capital support the college in meeting its daily operation needs, including vehicle maintenance and replacement, and furniture.

For 2022-23 the college has earmarked funding on vehicle replacement and repair for Piquisilirivvik Cultural Centre and Cambridge Bay campus, and also to install a security CCTV system at the Piquisilirivvik Cultural Centre in Clyde River.

The college's largest capital request is for ongoing lifecycle. This funding allows the college to maximize the life and use of its facilities through repairs and replacements.

As outlined in the college's capital projects substantiation sheet, the college had earmarked funds to replace, renovate, and upgrade facilities in Sanirajak, Kugaaruk, Clyde River, Cambridge Bay, and Rankin Inlet. Remaining funds will be used for emergency repairs that are required throughout the year.

In terms of IT infrastructure, the request for \$300,000 will support the college's commitment to ensuring students and staff have safe access to computers and laptops individually, but also in computer labs within the college's facilities. This budget will also allow the

college to purchase and upgrade digital learning tools and support for the college's student registration system.

These are the plans for the 2022-23 fiscal year. I am happy to answer any questions at this time. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the regular member have opening comments? Please proceed, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the regular members as the Committee of the Whole begins consideration of the proposed 2022-23 Capital Estimates for Nunavut Arctic College.

Nunavut Arctic College's proposed capital budget for 2022-23 is \$2.3 million with all proposed funding being allocated to three budget lines to address small capital, ongoing lifecycle repairs, and information technology needs across the territory.

Regular members recognize the important role played by the college's three regional campuses. Members have been given to understand that plans are under consideration for new mine training infrastructure in future capital plans. Members encourage the minister to work with the board of Nunavut Arctic College and its industry partners to develop and expand mine and trades training infrastructure opportunities in communities other than the regional centres.

Nunavut's community learning centres play an important role in providing community-level programming for adult learning opportunities and post-

secondary education. Although no projects to replace or renovate community learning centres are included in the college's 2022-23 capital plan, members have been given to understand that such projects are being considered for a number of communities in the future. It has been noted that the conditions in some community learning centres have a negative impact on program delivery.

Documentation provided by the government indicates that a number of vehicles and equipment will be purchased under the college's small capital budget. Mr. Chairman, members noted that in the past, a number of vehicles have been allocated to the regional campuses and the Piquisilirivvik facility in Clyde River. Members have requested that the college also consider purchasing vehicles for use by community learning centre staff to pick up supplies and transport students and elders, especially when safety is a concern due to the centre's location as well as for the Piquisilirivvik satellite campuses in Baker Lake and Igloolik.

That concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2022-23 Capital Estimates of Nunavut Arctic College. I am confident that my colleagues will wish to offer further comments of their own. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Sammurtok. Do any members have any general comments to the opening comments? Seeing none. Department of Finance. Centrally Administered Funds. Sorry, could somebody have... ? Oh. Mr. Quqqiaq, go ahead.

**Mr. Quqqiaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the opening comments, for the Piqqusilirivvik in Clyde River and for the Piqqusilirivvik in Baker Lake, are there any plans for any Piqqusilirivvik in the Kitikmeot region? That's just one question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. It's typically just comments to the opening comments, but I will allow it in this instance. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to the member for the question. Yes, there are plans to explore a Piqqusilirivvik for the Kitikmeot. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Any other comments to the opening comments? Seeing none. Department of Finance. Centrally Administered Funds. Nunavut Arctic College. \$2,300,000. The first name I have on my list is Mr. Malliki. Go ahead please.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we dealt with the Minister of Education, I don't see here the community learning centre for Coral Harbour. I don't see it on the list. Could you elaborate on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman and *Quana* to the member for the question. The CLC community learning centre for Coral Harbour is not a part of the Nunavut Arctic College's capital as it is a project with the Department of Education, as a part of the Sakku School. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe she indicated that she would include it here, however it is not here. So what is the status on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I can provide that information at a later date to the committee as it is a project with the Department of Education. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. I think I know where the member is going on this. At the end of the day, who is going to own that CLC in Coral Harbour? Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. Similar to other projects that the college has taken on, this would be planned to be passed on to the Nunavut Arctic College as an asset for the college. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** So just to clarify, are there any budget dollars coming from Nunavut Arctic College to the Department of Education to pay for the Nunavut Arctic College's portion of that project? Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. There are no funds coming from the Nunavut Arctic College for the CLC in Coral Harbour at this time. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday she did

mention that it would be included in the budget here but we don't see it here. Perhaps was it just to get an approval? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** I think there might have been some kind of misunderstanding at that commitment from the minister, but if she can elaborate on what her intended response was yesterday. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. Wearing two different, going over to the Department of Education.

As outlined, the Department of Education stated that the community learning centre for Coral Harbour will be kind of like 'a gift' if you can say so, to add on a community learning centre that is separate from the school; a detached community learning centre for the community as a part of that project envelope. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for that clarification. I think we should have more clear responses or descriptions when these are being presented. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** That's just a comment, and I think it is a fair comment. And I'll just make note that, maybe in the future, when these shared projects come together there might be a usefulness to have the budget separately broken down a little bit within the overall budget just so there is some clarity on the cost of the CLC versus the cost with the school. It gives a little more of a transparent picture. I'll just leave that as a comment.

I'll go to the next name on my list, Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, Minister Gross, and your officials.

The draft capital estimates request \$1,500,000 for ongoing lifecycle repairs and maintenance and the supporting documentation lists two projects to renovate student residences. What infrastructure issues have been identified in respect to the college's student residences? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Laughter*

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman, and *Quana* to the member for the question. This budgetary item pertains for the general maintenance for the renovations to the Iqaluit residence units.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, minister. Can you just elaborate on what those renovations are? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. Some of the funds for the renovations are going to damaged roofs, so leaky roofs that will be addressed and renovated with this fund. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, minister. We know often with leaky roofs come a multitude of issues that often include mould. I'm wondering if there's a need for mould remediation during these repairs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman, and *Quana* to the member for the question. Yes, that is an issue that will be addressed. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In addition to the need to fix some of the ongoing repair issues, students have mentioned that there are accessibility issues, safety issues, around some of the residences here. I'm wondering about how those issues might be addressed and if there is a plan to address them with these renovations, and whether or not those safety issues, as well as accessibility issues will be addressed as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. The first issue is to address the repairs for the residence and if there are additional funds we can look into further expanding CCTVs into the residence complex. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just going back to that mould

issue then, we know that there has been a significant investment by the federal government to almost every jurisdiction around creating better ventilation to reduce or mitigate the risk of COVID-19 spreading. I'm wondering if you're availing of those funds for any of the renovations that are occurring, not just in the residences, but also just specifically with the mould issues in the student residence, proper ventilation that keeps air circulating is one of the keys to ensuring that mould does not develop, or redevelop. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question to the member. At this time those funds are not accessible to the Nunavut Arctic College. However it is something that we can explore with our federal colleagues. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you for that response. Part of the reason that this is really important is we know that we have a lot of young children living with students in those residences and those children due to their age and sizes may be more susceptible to health issues related to mould so I think it is really important to do as much prevention as we can.

On the ongoing lifecycle budget which is \$25,000 for patching and paint work for the new Nunatta Campus. I am just wondering, it seems like that is a huge expense for such a new building. I am wondering what has led to that whether or not there are issues of vandalism, or issue related to the build and I am

wondering what is the current operational status of the new campus building. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question to the member. The repairs and interior patch and painting for the Nunatta Campus building B is the older side of the college and has not seen any renovation to the hopeful interior work that needs to be updated. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you for that clarification. I am now on to the IT infrastructure somewhere. I do not know where the exact numbers are. I am wondering if you can talk a little bit more about that IT infrastructure for me, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question to our colleague. The IT infrastructure will cover costs of various IT-related assets at the college's three main campuses and 25 community learning centres. These expenditures include replacing computers in the computer laboratories, purchasing and upgrading of digital learning tools, such as interactive multimedia displays. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These interactive multimedia

displays, are they intended to support students who have accessibility issues in their learning? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to turn that technicality question over to President Mearns.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Mearns.

**Ms. Mearns** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The IT infrastructure such as surface hubs, laptops, other hardware and software that we are utilizing are to support our programs in, I guess using new ways to make our classrooms accessible beyond just the four walls at the classroom at the college. This is supporting our work towards blended learning delivery and the options for online learning and other learning tools that can be accessed utilizing this hardware and software. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Mearns. Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you for that response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to blur any lines but you brought up blended learning and expanding the way that students can learn. Okay. I'm going to leave that question; I don't feel like I can relate it to this.

Instead, I will think about that one and I'll go to the substantiation sheet which mentions not just the digital learning

tools, but also mentions support fees of the college's student registration system.

You may or may not be aware, but I did have a question about transcripts and issues related to students being able to apply for their ongoing education related our government system's ability to provide that information to them, the information that is up to date, correct, and timely. I'm wondering if that student registration system upgrades includes creating a better system that is faster, better, easier to use and ultimately supports students in their ongoing education? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to turn that question over to President Mearns. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Mearns.

**Ms. Mearns:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this is an ongoing project to renew our student information system that we utilize at the college. This has been an area in which we have been working to improve the accessibility of that so that students are able to access, say registration, their student information, their payments and other things online, and to be able to access it in real-time.

Also, this is to support improvements in our student information reporting, whether it's registration and things like that, making it more accessible and easier to use for our staff that are engaged in using that day in and day out, as well as the use for our students as well. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you for that response, Ms. Mearns. Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you for that response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of quick questions, just so I can wrap my head around this... Is it safe to assume; I'm assuming, that that online registration actually can talk to the K to 12 education system. Are they compatible, are they the same system?

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. No, they are a different system. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Okay, thank you. So, that was an answer to one question. So, are they compatible, can they talk to each other? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. We're not aware of that information; we will look into and get back to the member on the question. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** So, likely not. Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that response. We have spent a couple of days now talking about a really important upgrade to a system with a member across from you, and I know from experience that the systems that we use and work with or that we ask public servants use and work with, can cause a great deal of limitations on productivity and on service if one doesn't relate to the other

or if an employee of any of our institutions or departments don't have permissions to access the full breadth of systems that inform the work of public servants in supporting citizens. I hope that made sense.

I just am wondering what kind of thought has been put into that when considering upgrading a system, versus creating or investing in a system that works throughout the realm of work that needs to be done to support education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to turn that question over to President Mearns. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Mearns.

**Ms. Mearns** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) You do bring up a good point, and internally, as part of what we are doing with the software we use is looking at how they talk to one another.

As a post-secondary institution, while also being an agency of the government, finding that balance of the system that works for us as a post-secondary institution, as there are many systems out there that post-secondary institutions across the country use, trying to find one that works for the needs that we have as a post-secondary institution as opposed to a department of the government, but being able to make those connections between systems or finding ways to make those connections as streamlined as possible, but also understanding

unique things that we have as well, as an institution. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Mearns. Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have realized that my time has run out, but I would hope that we would do everything that we can to not just interact internally within Nunavut systems, but as you said, with those systems that other educational institutions use.

The question is: how compatible is the current system with that, and then if I can just ask as well, whether or not that system... you had mentioned online payments. I'm guessing that is for FANS and that sort of things for students.

What I'm wondering is whether or not the online payment availability includes a full breadth of how a student might be able to receive funds given that so many communities don't actually have banks. Some students rely on pay as you go debit cards and that sort of thing, and whether or not the system is compatible with the alternative to bank account payments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** That is actually a good question. I went through a personal experience where I tried to purchase a book from the college and I had to actually write a cheque.

>> *Laughter*

Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question on

payment. I know that it is one that we are working on.

Right now we have online payments for students and there are different types of software out there that post-secondary institutions use and they can do a multitude of different functions, and right now students can pay in person with debit card, or visa, or any other type of compatible method to pay for rent, or tuition, or books; those types of things and we are always wanting work with the students and support them as much as we can and on case by cases basis we can work with individual students who may have issues with banking needs. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a few questions, but it is not so much about what the budget is, but what is not there.

Back on November 5, 2020, the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College tabled a preliminary report of community learning centres by region and in that tabled document, the executive summary, on page 4, the report states “This report comprises the preliminary report on the College’s Community Learning Centres as prepared for the Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College and the President of Nunavut Arctic College in early 2018, and forms the basis of the College’s needs assessment for the renovation, modernization, or replacement of all existing Community Learning Centres...”

It states that they want to know what shape each community learning centre is and I don’t know if the minister has that at her, but I would like to know where Arviat’s community learning centre sat on that scale, was it time to replace, was it okay? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. There are, for Arviat community learning centre, there are repairs that are going to be going forward and there are several issues that were addressed, including replacing doors, flooring and windows to the existing facility, and in terms of the members question, how far Arviat is on the list for a new community learning centre, I don’t have that information on hand, but can provide that to the member. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just from memory, I think that community learning centre was built in 1979 if my memory serves me right, but I can be corrected by the minister if that is wrong and it is very small for the size of the community of Arviat.

Arviat has approximately 3000 people now and the community learning centre is just too small, it is inadequate, and it’s limiting the number of Arviarmiut that can get adult training to help them get employed, or keep employed, or move up in their skills.

I would like to know if it in the plans to get a new larger more modern community learning centre in Arviat. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. As for the details of the community learning centre going through the capital planning process, we do know that it does take time and we have many community learning centres that are in need of repair, or to be replaced, and it is our hope that we can have those educational spaces for our community members to access.

I understand where the member is coming from for Arviat to have a new community learning centre. We have four projects that we're hoping will be approved for the capital planning process to begin and Arviat is not on that list right now, but I'm hopeful, considering the age and the other criteria that go forward for a queue for new community learning centres or upgrades or repairs that considering the age, Arviat would be at the top of the list after the next four.

As I said, we can get that information and I'll get back to the member with that information. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is disheartening to hear that Arviat is not even in the top four. The community learning centre is used a lot there and Arviat has a fairly high income support rate, and some of the income support clients do want to take courses to better themselves so they can get off income support. I highly encourage the minister to try harder to see if they can get the Arviat Community Learning Centre to get replaced first because it is old and Arviat is big. I would hope that

the utilization and the number of students and courses that are running through a program would be taken into consideration of when a community learning centre should be expanded or replaced. It's just a comment. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Next name on my list: Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On March 14 the Minister of Nunavut Arctic College stated, and I will quote from the *Hansard*, "For the 2022-23 fiscal year, Nunavut Arctic College has introduced four community learning centres into the capital planning process and Chesterfield Inlet is one of the communities that will be going forward."

And then on March 15, the Minister of Nunavut Arctic College stated again, and I will quote from the *Hansard*, "...Nunavut Arctic College can commit that for the 2022-23 fiscal year, the NAC has plans to introduce your community of Sanikiluaq into the capital planning process."

And then again on March 15, *Nunatsiaq News* published an article about Chesterfield Inlet's new adult learning centre stating that the project is in Nunavut Arctic College's 2022-23 capital plan but still needs to be approved to be in the budget officially.

Mr. Chairman, I am more than ready to approve these projects, but I don't see them in the capital plan that we are currently voting on. Residents of Chesterfield Inlet who have been following these proceedings now have

expectations that the new community learning centre will be starting in the near future, possibly in the 2022-23 fiscal year. Residents in Sanikiluaq and the other two communities have similar expectations.

Can the minister confirm the timelines for these projects and, if they are not starting during the 2022-23 fiscal year, can she clarify when they will be started? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question and for the chance to clarify. I realize that I did say that the college has plans, and that is correct, we're hopeful that the community planning process will be approved and start in the four communities that I had listed. I might have overcommitted, and I hope that I didn't, but I'm hopeful that they are going to be approved, and if they are, they will start the capital planning process, which we know takes time, like any capital project to go through the chain of the capital planning process to completion. I would like to say that we're hopeful that it will go forward, and we do have communities that we are wanting to be approved should they be approved through that process. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. She didn't answer the question with regard to the confirmed timelines for these projects, and if they will not be starting during the 2022-23 fiscal year, when will they start?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the opportunity to elaborate further. The information has been provided by the Nunavut Arctic College to the Government of Nunavut for a five-year capital plan and we're still waiting to hear the results whether they will start the capital planning process or not. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok:** That was my last question. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am unsure if I should bring this issue forward as I don't know if it is appropriate, nonetheless, we are talking about (interpretation ends) budget or capital estimates (interpretation) and I did not see it here and perhaps we are asking too many questions on what is missing? I am unsure. I am providing some context firstly.

I have a question (interpretation ends) the department's 2022-2023 capital estimates include two blocks of funding for improvements to Piquqsilirivvik Cultural Centre: the installation of CCTV security system under the small capital budget and the purchase of the new freezers under the ongoing lifecycle budget. Have any major renovations needs be identified in this facility?

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. There are no renovation plans for the Piqqusilirivvik campus at this time. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have noted under (interpretation ends) regional facilities (interpretation) where the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural Centre in Clyde River is identified as being under the Arctic College purview, and it was taken over by them in 2012.

That is a fair number of years already, however, I wanted to ask a question to you then, Ms. Gross is the Piqqusilirivvik...my question is if your department has had conversations with the management staff at Piqqusilirivvik to see if there is a requirement to have renovations at the building? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. Nunavut Arctic College does have conversations with the staff at the Piqqusilirivvik and other campuses. If there is need of any renovations, the staff will inform Nunavut Arctic College of those needs or repairs or upgrades to the facility so that they can go onto the future plans for their work to their facilities. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for the clarification. I have another question as it involves finances.

It indicates here that there are 14 vehicles or mobile equipment that are used by the staff at Piqqusilirivvik. There are four ATVs, three outboard motors, seven skidoos, and I believe there is a vehicle in there also. For the marine and land vehicles, are these only for taking students out on the land, and if that is the case, there is also a requirement for the night watchmen to use vehicles of some sort. Have staff from Piqqusilirivvik provided any indication that they require additional vehicles. Since this is my first sitting I just wanted to indicate that I would support them acquiring any further vehicles they required. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question. Yes, the plan is to buy a vehicle for Piqqusilirivvik to transport students and staff to the facility, but we haven't had the discussion yet with regard to security and we will be happy to do so and talk about plans and work on solutions for that. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you for that, minister. The next name on my list: Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I have a couple of questions. The first one is about the IT infrastructure. As being the previous adult educator in Pond Inlet, I don't know if the internet is a part of the purchase. There were times

we couldn't do assignments on the computer because the internet was so slow. Will that a part of the information technology equipment you are purchasing? Also, it would nice for the college or the CLCs in the smaller communities to have SMART boards. It would make it easier to teach students. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. In terms of hardware for remote learning, the college does provide students and staff with the necessary tools and does provide internet sticks to students. The option is there for them to use those for their studies.

In terms of the second portion, with regard to smart boards, not all of our community learning centres have smart boards, but if there are campuses or community learning centres that would like smart boards in their facilities we encourage them to reach out to Nunavut Arctic College so that we can put them on the plans for upcoming fiscal years. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you minister.

(interpretation ends) On another topic, what is the current policy with respect to including child care space in any newly renovated community learning centres or replacement of community learning centres? With this question I would like to add that child care is always an issue with adult learners, and a lot of the new

high schools are getting the childcare centres. Would the college be supporting that idea of getting the child care centres attached to the CLC's? Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. Any type of new Government of Nunavut infrastructure is assessed to see if there is capacity to create daycare or childcare space within in the facility and some of the new college residences or CLCs have that capacity with the new construction. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Gross. I can see it now, a day care in a power plant.

>> *Laughter*

Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you minister for that response.

(interpretation ends) Another topic; in previous capital budget reviews the government had expressed interest in establishing a mine training centre in Nunavut. Some members requested that mining related infrastructure be established in communities outside of the regional centres, but it says there is no mine training specific projects in the college for the 2022 until 2027 five- year plan.

I know a position was opened in Pond Inlet for a Qikiqtaaluk mine training coordinator and two simulators had

arrived on the last sealift. What are we going to do with those if there's no specific projects within the five-year plan? Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to turn that question over to President Mearns. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Mearns.

**Ms. Mearns:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. We have, through our industrial training programs, purchased mobile simulators that can be used for training throughout the territory. These, depending on which piece of equipment it is, can be moved and utilized in communities throughout the territory for industrial training, heavy equipment operator training and things like that. The plans for the program delivery would be in our operational budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Mearns. Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Yes, thank you for your reply, President Mearns. (interpretation ends) My last one will just be a comment. In our last CGS visit, we requested either for the carpets to be removed or cleaned because the college is 13 years old today. Not today. Sorry.

Have reports been passed to your department regarding these community visit reports? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question. Yes, we are aware of that. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Nutarak, did you have another... . Go ahead.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and minister. (interpretation ends) That was not a comment, but a question, but this is my question. Every summer we have to board up the windows because the college has a really nice ramp and kids love to play there and windows are vandalized during the summer. I would suggest for Nunavut Arctic College or CGS to think about ordering high quality window roller shutters so that it would be easier for staff to remove the plywood. Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. We have taken it as note and we'll look into it. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. The next name I have on my list: Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, minister and to your officials. I would like to touch on a couple of items. First off, we see Piquisilirivvik. If I understood correctly, you are buying some vehicles and freezer units for the Piquisilirivvik in Clyde River. Do you have plans going forward for the Piquisilirivvik satellite campuses in Baker Lake and Igloolik? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. We don't have any plans for the Piqusilirivvik satellite campus in Baker Lake or Igloolik; any renovations or repairs, but I can say that the Baker Lake community learning centre will have maintenance issues addressed with regard to the fuel tank replacement, patching and painting of the building. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a bit disappointing, especially with regard to the vehicles. With it being a satellite campus, the capital purchase of ATVs and snowmobiles and boats would go a long way, especially since there has been a push for many years now to revitalize Inuit *piqquhingi* and Piqusilirivvik was actually born during the Second Assembly way back between 2004 and 2008 and it hasn't gone very far in my opinion.

There are always talks about trying to revitalize Inuit culture and yet we're not investing in it enough, in my opinion. Has the college even looked at it before investing in some of these capitals that would go a long way? It's not that expensive when you look at it. Or are we just talking that we're trying to revitalize Inuit culture? Will the minister commit to looking into that and get back to us? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for

the question. I can sympathize with how important, and stress how important our culture and language is, and we can look into the satellite campus for Baker Lake in terms of any requests that come forward. Through letter is best appreciated to address concerns or issues to improvements for the facility. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. Moving on with the subject of trades training at the college, has a simulator been shipped to Baker Lake? It's quite surprising Pond Inlet has two of them. Baker Lake has been a mining community for twelve years now and the three local contractors that operate in Baker Lake, along with the subcontractors on the mine site, are constantly looking for heavy equipment operators and they are still flying in operators from the south. This is going on twelve years now. I'm wondering has there been a request to put a heavy equipment simulator into Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. I appreciate the desire for expanded equipment to further enhance education. I would like to recommend that there is a formal letter addressed outlining the need for the simulators, as stated in the question to the college, and addressed and we'll look into it and get back to the member and hopefully have it on future capital plans. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has a request been previously submitted before? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. As far as I'm aware, there has been no previous request from Baker Lake. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Next name I have on my list: Mr. Anavilok.

**Mr. Anavilok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Interpretation ends) My question is: the previous government had announced its intention to establish a new Nunavut mine training centre while some members suggested that new mine training infrastructure should be allocated in communities outside of the regional centres? What is the current plan to provide new mine training infrastructure? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question on mine training infrastructure. Currently, outside of our three regional campuses, there are no plans for further development of infrastructure for mine training, but there is opportunity for training in various communities. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Anavilok.

**Mr. Anavilok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) My next question and final question, but I looked at some survey maps some time

back and knowing that in the Kitikmeot region there is a lot of exploration mining going on and other mines there too. What consideration has been given to provide mine training infrastructure in communities other than the regional centres and, if so, in which communities? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to turn that question to President Mearns to answer. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Absolutely. Ms. Mearns, please proceed.

**Ms. Mearns:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have four portable simulators that are dedicated to each region that would support heavy equipment operation training and those are located in each region, and the goal is to have those be able to go out to the different communities within the region to provide different training opportunities.

Part of the challenges that we have had over the past two years has been interruptions by COVID-19 because that has hindered our ability to provide in-person training sometimes, so it is our goal to have additional industrial training opportunities available throughout the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you for that. The next name I have on my list: Mr. Kaernerck.

**Mr. Kaernerck:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, minister and your officials. In your opening

comments you said for small capital projects there would be \$500,000. Looking at the substantiation sheet, it's more on purchasing and replacement of maintaining vehicles. Which communities are getting their vehicles replaced or maintained, and if you can provide that? Let me stop right there. How many vehicles are you trying to replace? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague to our colleague for the question. In terms of vehicles, the two vehicles that will be purchased if approved will be one for Cambridge Bay and one for Clyde River. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Kaerner.

**Mr. Kaerner:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For those two communities, with this \$500,000 set aside for small capital, does that mean these two vehicles will cost \$250,000 each? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* for the question. Under small capital, it is for vehicles as mentioned in the previous answer as well as the installation of a CCTV system at the Piquisilivvik campus in Clyde River. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Kaerner:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the clarification on the small capital projects. Now, does college think that these replacements are essential in terms of the Member for Baker Lake has

mentioned this mining training and other members have mentioned this also and I think it would be more essential if was more utilized in terms of providing trades? I guess my question is: are these essential for the college to purchase this equipment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to the member for the question. Yes, these are essential for our facilities to maintain the best safety and also have accessibility for our staff and students to be transported. For example, in Piquisilivvik, Clyde River is quite a distance to the campus and we know that there are polar bears in the community, and that vehicle will help supplement the transportation of students and staff to go to and from school or work.

There are also other additional projects that are included within the small capital, like repairing doors and windows and things that are important to keeping our facilities safe and adhering to protocols for our staff and students to be in a safe environment with replacement of doors and the windows in our facilities.

The question is complex in terms of whether it's important, and I think things we support for education are always important, and we have been talking about mine training and the opportunity, and in the college's operational budget there is that component for our programming aspect of the programs and the program delivery. We will further touch upon that in our next session. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Kaerner.

**Mr. Kaerner:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the information that you provided. Yes, I understand it's essential for the college to purchase.

Moving along to my next question: what does the \$1.5 million for the ongoing lifecycle... For the Sanirajak college, is the building up to code? As it is with pretty much with the rest of the communities, they all have an old college. Is the building in Sanirajak, where the college is, is it up to building code? As the college will be willing to spend quite a bit of money on the replacement, is it up to date with the building code? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. In terms of the Sanirajak community learning centre, the ongoing lifecycle funds, and if approved, will replace the carpet in the CLC, the community learning centre, along with windows and doors for the facility.

In terms of, is the building up to code? We do have people that go into the community learning centres, and the capital planner, as well as others that work at the college, go and visit our community learning centres and our campuses to see what needs might be there. As far as I'm aware, the building is up to code. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Kaerner.

**Mr. Kaerner:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the information that you provided. Yeah,

pretty much the rest of the communities have old buildings and that's why I decide to ask if the building up to code.

Now, with the other community that I represent, with the Igloolik college, I don't see anything going to Igloolik. So I guess that college is up to date with everything with the renovations and with the replacements. How is Igloolik Arctic College doing so far when they're not getting anything? I'll have another line of questioning in regard to Igloolik. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. Igloolik is planned to have community learning centre repairs and this project was started to address several issues at the community learning centre in Igloolik as a result of an oil spill in June 2019. Due to COVID-19, some projects have been delayed and there is a carryover and Igloolik is one of the planned CLCs that will see repairs in this coming fiscal year. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Kaerner.

**Mr. Kaerner:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm glad to hear that the Igloolik campus will also be looked at. Now, in saying that, with the ongoing lifecycle, it was budgeted for \$1.5 million. Looking at the substantiation sheet, all these ongoing lifecycles are totalling to \$1.32 million. Under that, the remaining funds will be used for community projects. Can your further elaborate on what community projects the college is looking at? Maybe delivering on the land programs, or

getting trades certificates? What kinds of community projects is the college looking at and how are they going to be prioritized with the remaining funds? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. These ongoing lifecycle funds are specifically for facility maintenance updates, so any repairs or maintenance issues that need to be addressed in our community learning centres or campuses is what this funding will go to support. The programming and the delivery programs is through a different pot of funding. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Kaernerck.

**Mr. Kaernerck:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for explaining what the community projects and whatever emergency repairs are required throughout the year. Now it is saying that, what is going to be budgeted for \$300,000 for information technology and infrastructure? Will the two communities I represent of Igloolik and Sanirajak also be getting some kind of information technology under this \$300,000? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. Yes, the communities of Igloolik and Sanirajak will see IT infrastructure as a part of these funds as all of our campuses and community learning centres, the students will see

support for IT infrastructure, and each place that we offer adult learning or have campuses will some type of IT infrastructure updates or improvements to their campuses or community learning centres. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Kaernerck.

**Mr. Kaernerck:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. Yes, it's finally good to hear "yes."

I would just like to make a last comment and I would like to have the minister's assurance that when it comes to, let's say, trades diploma or certificate courses that are delivered in the three regions, in the near future, will the college be working with the mining sectors such as Baffinland, in delivering trades to at least become maybe a millwright or an electrician.

I would like to see the college in a working relationship with the mining sector to deliver these programs in each community so that the students wouldn't have to travel to other communities and the two communities I represent are also impacted by mining. It is just a suggestion for the near future if these can spread out to other communities, Nunavut-wide. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and that is it.

**Chairman:** Thank you for that comment. Next name on my list: Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for recognizing me again. (interpretation ends) A number of community learning centres are in very poor condition. (interpretation) Naujaat is another one of

them. (interpretation) Why are there no specific community learning centre projects included in this college 2022-23 capital estimates for its five-year capital plan? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. We are hopeful that new, or improved, or renovated community learning centres will be approved in the capital planning process. Once we hear if they are approved or not we will know if they will start that process for the capital planning process, which we know takes time. We are very hopeful as we want to see education continue to be improved across our territory, particularly for adult learn. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Mr. Malliki, are you done?

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): No.

**Chairman:** Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for her reply.

(interpretation ends) Are there any community learning centres currently closed due to infrastructure issues, and if so, in which communities?  
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask for

witness Steven Chitiyo, the capital planner, to come to the witness table. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Chitiyo, did I pronounce that right?

**An Hon. Member:** Chitiyo.

**Mr. Chitiyo:** Thank you. There are currently no CLCs that are closed.

**Chairman:** Just please acknowledge the Chair at the end of your comment and then the person running the mics will know when to switch it over to me. Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for the reply. (interpretation ends) Information provided by the Department of Education indicates that the community learning centre in Coral Harbour will be impacted by the upcoming plan to renovate Sakku School.

How is the college working with the Department of Education to ensure that adult learners will continue to have a place continue their studies during the renovation, and what input has the college had with respect to the construction of the new standalone community learning centre in Coral Harbour? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would once like again to turn the question over to Steven Chitiyo, capital planner. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Chitiyo.

**Mr. Chitiyo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are currently engaged with our counterparts at Education with regard to requirements for the new CLC and any other inputs that are needed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki:** As to my understanding. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry. Thank you for your response. (interpretation ends) As to my understanding, there is NTEP going on in Coral Harbour on their third year, if I am correct. How are they going to be in place to have their training continue? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. For the technicality of that question I would like to once again turn that question over to Capital Planner, Steve Chitiyo. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Chitiyo.

**Mr. Chitiyo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to Sakku School, when the renovation and addition begin, the first building, what they are going to work on first is to build the CLC. That will allow CLC college programming to move into the new building, and the students in the school would be able to move into the old CLC whilst the renovations are in progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you. I am a bit worried about roll out. I want to ask

about a stand-alone adult education centre. Will this have a daycare built as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. The community learning centre that we're discussing will not have a daycare attached to the facility. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for your clarification. Earlier today, during one of her statements, she announced that a daycare was going to be appended to all new adult education centres.

The facility is to be a new building, but it does not include a daycare in the design plans. Can you clarify that please? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** My apologies, Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki:** I already asked the question.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. In terms of a daycare facility, from my understanding there has not been the discussion to have a daycare within the new facility. I will let Mr. Chitiyo further expand on that answer. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Chitiyo.

**Mr. Chitiyo:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There have not been any discussions with regard to a daycare. The project began and went into pre-planning some

time ago, before we had a chance to discuss that option. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know what else to ask. When projects are identified, I'd like it clear as to the scope of the project. I have a lot of questions that would have been clearer with more information and detailed reports would be nice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Comments noted. Thank you, Mr. Malliki. I'll go to the next name on my list. Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It caught my attention, and correct me if I'm wrong. The two simulators in Pond Inlet are going to be travelling to different communities? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to our colleague for the question. Yes, the member is correct the two simulators in Pond Inlet will be travelling to different communities for training opportunities in other communities in the territory. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Pamela, minister. They are very heavy. (interpretation ends) One is 1,000 pounds and the other is 800 pounds, and they don't have a package. The way they

were brought up by sealift, some of them were just packed in wood. I'm wondering how you'll be sending them out. Through sealift? Airplane? I had to find like five men to carry those into the college. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Gross.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask President Mearns to respond to that question. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Mearns.

**Ms. Mearns** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we're talking about two different things here. In Pond Inlet, I'll say it in English (interpretation ends) air breaks board. So they are two different simulators that we're talking about here and I apologize for the confusion in that. You're right; the air breaks boards are very heavy and not easily moveable, so those would remain in Pond Inlet.

There are mobile simulators for other training, that I believe are still here in Iqaluit, but will be going to Pond Inlet and those would be the ones that would be used to train in different communities, but those ones that weigh a lot will stay put. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Nutarak.

**Ms. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also, thank you for the response Becky, that's clear. That is all I have.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Done? (interpretation ends) I have no more

names on my list. Department of Finance. Centrally Administered Funds. Through Nunavut Arctic College. \$2,300,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Just before the minister can make her very brief closing comments please.

**Hon. Pamela Gross:** *Quana*, Mr. Chairman. *Quana* to everyone here for the questions. We appreciate them and look forward to receiving further correspondence for our communities across the territory for improvements to our facilities.

I would like to thank the Nunavut Arctic College staff that are here with us this evening, as well as the staff behind the scenes that are not here. With that, for the record, Mr. Chairman, as it was my first appearance yesterday, upon completion, I would like to state for the record that I also thank the Department of Education staff that were present and also behind the scenes preparing all these documents before the Committee of the Whole. *Quana*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Gross. Sergeant-at-arms, if you could escort the witness out please. We'll take a two-minute break and then we'll get started with the Qulliq Energy Corporation. Thank you.

*>>Committee recessed at 17:49 and resumed at 17:52*

**Chairman:** I would like to call the committee back to order. Before I get started, Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Pursuant to Rule 6(2), I move that we remain in the Committee of the Whole so that we can complete the review of the estimates of the Department of Finance. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Are members in agreement?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Quick and simple, Mr. Clerk. With that, Minister Quassa, do you have any officials that you would like to appear before the committee? Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to have Bill Nippard, Director of Operations for the Qulliq Energy Corporation. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Do members agree for the minister to have her witness?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Once again, you have already introduced the witness before the committee has agreed to have the witness in place, but please proceed with your opening comments, Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I start, I would just like to let everybody know that the president for the Qulliq Energy Corporation is in isolation and cannot be with us today.

Mr. Chairman, I appear today to support the Qulliq Energy Corporation's request for \$500,000 to help replace Nunavut's street lights with energy efficient light-

emitting diode (LED) lights. We are seeking the third instalment for phase 3 as part of \$2 million in capital funding requested over four years, that started with \$500,000 in 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively.

Mr. Chairman, our government is interested in taking steps to reduce our reliance on diesel and lower harmful emissions of greenhouse gases. This is challenging in Nunavut. However, the corporation is committed to helping the Government of Nunavut uphold its commitments to the *Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change*. The Qulliq Energy Corporation is able to do so by providing Nunavummiut with energy-efficient solutions that lessen the use of non-renewable resources.

The corporation continues to replace Nunavut's existing street lights with environmentally-friendly LED lights. This energy-efficient technology is helping Nunavut lower its carbon emissions, improve its impact on the environment, and save on energy costs for the hamlets, while making the streets safer and brighter. The corporation has also taken specific safety measures to properly dispose of waste such as old fixtures and bulbs and is committed to seeking opportunities that will further enhance energy efficiency in all aspects of its operation, with the goal of reducing Nunavut's reliance on diesel fuel and cutting carbon emissions.

Under this project, the Qulliq Energy Corporation has replaced conventional street lights with this energy-efficient technology in 12 communities across the territory: Pond Inlet, Grise Fiord, Igloolik, Resolute Bay, Kugaaruk,

Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, Coral Harbour, Whale Cove, Sanirajak, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Arctic Bay. Prior to this project, the corporation replaced conventional street lights in four communities: Iqaluit, Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Clyde River. Further upgrades are anticipated in phase 3 (2022-23) and in phase 4 (2023-24) of the project.

Efforts to switch from conventional to LED street lights began in 2017-18 with funding from Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. With additional funding from the Government of Nunavut's carbon rebate, the Qulliq Energy Corporation will continue upgrading the street lights across the territory until every community across Nunavut can benefit from improved illumination on the streets and reduced energy costs for local governments.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I will be pleased to respond to any questions that members of the committee may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. Does a regular member have opening comments? Please proceed, Mr. Malliki.

**Mr. Malliki** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus on its review of the proposed 2022-23 Capital Estimates of the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Members recognize that the Qulliq Energy Corporation's four-year street light replacement project is being funded by revenues from the federal carbon tax. Members support the intent of the

project and encourage the minister to report annually to the Legislative Assembly on its progress.

Members encourage the minister to publicly clarify the corporation's plans for which communities will have their street lights replaced during the 2022-23 fiscal year and which communities will have their street lights replaced during the 2023-24 fiscal year.

That concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2022-23 Capital Estimates of the Qulliq Energy Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does any member have any general comments to the opening comments? Seeing none, as mentioned before, we're on Finance. Centrally Administered Funds. Qulliq Energy Corporation. \$500,000. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This LED street light replacement has been going on for a while and I would just like to get from the minister how it is decided which communities first get their street lights replaced. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The way that it was decided, first of all, each year they can only do at least 500 street lights for it costs \$1,000 for each light poll. In regard to the way that they have selected the communities, how they have been selected is they started off from farthest up north and coming on down and making sure that each year they do 500 street lights.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason for starting north first was? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) One of the reasons also was, up further north, due to daylight hours being shorter than south. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Arviat has not had any street lights replaced with LED lights and Grise Fiord has, and the minister states because it's further north and it's darker. Well, further north also gets 24-hour light and why was it not taken into consideration the number of street lights per community? All the street lights in Grise Fiord might add up to one road in Arviat, so there would be a lot more power consumption to light Arviat's street lights as to oppose. Can the minister just explain that? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Minister Quassa, you have a mute button on your microphone. When I acknowledge it over to you, you can utilize the mute button. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) It's mainly regarding daylight and not just

seasonal, and one of the reasons as well is that Grise Fiord was under phase 1, so were more of the smaller communities that could be dealt with. Trying to get 500 street lights done and in regard to phase 1, the smaller communities were dealt with because they had less street lights to be installed.

For the member's information, Arviat is due to have their LED lights installed this year. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's good to hear because that was going to be my next question, when Arviat is slated. Will all the street lights be replaced this year in Arviat? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, all 199 of them. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** I thank the minister for that. Let's pass the budget. Thank you.

>>Laughter

**Chairman:** On that note, I do not have any names left on my list. Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok:** I just have one question in regard to street lights. Are they going to be installed in house, or

contracted out? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It'll be mostly contracted out. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Sammurtok. (interpretation) Are you done? (interpretation ends) Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Yes, I still am Ms. Brewster and I appreciate that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister, it's my understanding that the City of Iqaluit has budgeted about \$200,000 for replacement of some of the street lights here and that there were meetings with QEC to plan and I guess sort out the way forward for that and that they got delayed due to the water emergency. I'm just wondering where QEC is with their partnership with the city on making our streets a little bit safer and brighter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Meetings have not started yet due to COVID and water, and right now QEC is waiting for the city to approach them in regard to setting a meeting with them. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Chairman:** Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure they are listening

intently to this discussion right now and that you'll hear from them soon.

Just out of curiosity, I know that a number of street lights have been replaced recently. I know that one of my colleagues brought up the issue of a street light not being sufficient because it doesn't actually light a playground that's in that neighbourhood; I think that's in Happy Valley. I'm just wondering whether or not that's a priority.

We talked about community safety and certainly about children's safety, as well as encouraging people to be active and parents to connect with their children, and being able to play out at the playground all winter long is a really important part of that.

I'm just wondering, with a scenario like that, and others of course, where there is a need to replace older lights, whether or not community safety as well as just general lifestyle, healthy living activities are taken into account and whether or not something like that could be prioritized, if it's not already on your list of replacements? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Certainly, if there is any community that may want to have a certain light replaced to be a little bit brighter, they can always go to Qulliq Energy Corporation to let them know and they can have it down as a work order. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Brewster.

**Ms. Brewster:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The issue of public safety, community safety, comes up on a regular basis regarding the area by Iqaluit beach, which is in front of the elders home and the library, and it's kind of a grey area jurisdictionally because apparently maybe the feds own the road back there, which is why it doesn't get plowed. It is Inuit-owned lands on the beach front.

What we know is that there are a number of disturbances along that stretch of Iqaluit; not just in the summer, but ongoing as people leave the beer and wine store with their purchases. I'm just wondering what kind of work QEC has been doing with all of the partners; not just the City of Iqaluit, but with Qikiqtani Inuit Association as well as the federal government with regard to how QEC can contribute to making that a safer place by lighting it up better. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Brewster. I will allow this question, but I will ask you to keep on target with the budgeted amount for future questions. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If I could hand the question to Mr. Nippard, Director of Operations.

**Chairman:** Thank you and if you could acknowledge the Chair so the person running the mics know when to switch them over, minister. Mr. Nippard.

**Mr. Nippard:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, member. We haven't been approached yet with regard

to any potential safety issues along the beachfront. If we are, of course we will respond and address those concerns. The issue of public is of utmost importance for QEC and we do our best to maintain the street lights in acceptable working conditions and one of the benefits of LED street lights is reduced maintenance, so if we do install LED street lights in a community, those lights should not experience as many failures, which will improve public safety.

With regard to this particular instance, we have not yet been approached to provide a solution or a cost for a solution in that particular area. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you for that. I'll go to the next name on my list. Mr. Qavvik.

**Mr. Qavvik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. *Qujannamiik*, minister and your representative. In your opening comments you mentioned a project is starting from north all the way to the south. I'm assuming Sanikiluaq will be last. I would assume that Sanikiluaq is under page 4 under 2023-24 projects. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Unfortunately you are correct, but among other communities as well. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Qavvik.

**Mr. Qavvik:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question is: how many street lights are in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The last time I was there I counted 53.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased with you, Joanna. Thank you for the proposed capital. My neighbour wanted to go ahead with the project and I second him. With respect to (interpretation ends) municipal boundary, (interpretation) the municipal land that is outlined. Just for my own understanding, when the street lights are being replaced, you have the (interpretation ends) power poles (interpretation) being erected by the hamlet. Does the hamlet have to request items such as those? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there are no streetlights on them, yes requests have to be made. If they have been requested, lights can be put on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, minister. Ms. Killiktee.

**Ms. Killiktee** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I ask this question because when you go to quite distance

away in the evenings, with some communities having their lights erected, which we saw this past summer in our communities, some areas looked like they were Christmas lights. So I ask that question if community hamlets have to make those requests, and often we're talking about areas where polar bears are quite numerous just outside the communities. So I ask that question. It would be good if requests can be made. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** If I understood, that was just a comment. Thank you. I'll go to the next name on my list, Mr. Anavilok.

**Mr. Anavilok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I just want to get back to the opening comments. Just in case for the people watching in Kugluktuk. The corporation replaced conventional streetlights in five communities. You said the four communities, but I didn't hear Kugluktuk. It's one of the communities on there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for the question. I had neglected that, but it was included in the five communities. (interpretation ends) Thank you for raising that. *Qujannamiik*.

**Chairman:** And if you could acknowledge the chair at the end of your proceedings so that the microphone... That was your final question? Thank you. I'll go to the last name on my list, Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, minister, and

to your officials there. The minister had the pleasure of counting the street lights in Sanikiluaq, when is she coming to Baker? No, I'm joking!

>> *Laughter*

I'm wondering, is there any way we can speed up the process of getting more communities transferred to the LED lights? Like an example, if the hamlets put in their own requests for funding to a federal program in conjunction with QEC, like QEC requests for funding to... they're doing Arviat next, can they do Baker Lake at the same time? Like if a hamlet took a lead as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Actually, Clyde River has done that. They've submitted an application to federal government and when they were approved, all QEC had to do was install the lights for them. If your community wants to do that, they can submit an application to the federal government as well, and then once they have been approved, the lights could be installed. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Simailak.

**Mr. Simailak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. I'm glad one hamlet was able to do that successfully. As far as I know, my community has never done that before. If they needed assistance with anything to direction or whatever, would they come to the Qulliq Energy

Corporation for guidance and direction to get going on this or are they on their own? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If they wanted to do that, they can seek support from the Qulliq Energy Corporation, but just for your information, Baker Lake's street lights will be worked on in the year 2023-24. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I have no more names on my list. Department of Finance. Centrally Administered Funds through the Qulliq Energy Corporation. \$500,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. The minister can provide comments, please.

**Hon. Joanna Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, committee members. (interpretation ends) Thank you for giving us the support and think of us each and every time they go on...

>> *Laughter*

...oh, the QEC.

>> *Laughter*

I am very thankful and thank you for the questions that you gave us. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out. Members remain in your seats. We still have to vote on this final page.

Committee members, Department of Finance. Centrally Administered Funds. Total Capital Expenditures. \$17,931,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded with the review of the Department of Finance?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. That is their business for today, so I will report progress to the Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Hickes.

#### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 2 and would like to report a lot of progress and that one committee motion was adopted. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Ms. Nutarak. The motion is in order. To the motion.

**An Hon. Member:** Question.

**Speaker:** All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried.

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

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for March 18:

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 1
- Bill 2
- Bill 3
- Bill 4

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Members, in accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 9 – 6(1), this House stands adjourned until Friday, March 17, at 10 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:26*

