NUNAVUT HANSARD

UNEDITED TRANCRIPT

NOVEMBER 4, 2026

IQALUIT, NUNAVUT

Hansard is not a verbatim transcript of the debates of the House. It is a transcript *in extenso.* In the case of repetition or for a number of other reasons, such as more specific identification, it is acceptable to make changes so that none reading Hansard will get the meaning of what was said. Those who edit Hansard have an obligation to make a sentence more readable since there is a difference between the spoken and the written word. Debates, September 20, 1983, p. 27299.

Beauchesne's 6th edition, citation 55

Corrections:

PLEASE RETURN ANY CORRECTIONS TO THE CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker
Hon. David Joanasie

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok
(Iqaluit Manirajak)
Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for Poverty Reduction; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. David Akeeagok
(Iqaluit-Niaqqunnguu)
Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College

Hannah Angootealuk
(Aivilik)

Edward Attagutaluk
(Aggu)

Hon. Janet Brewster
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)
Minister of Health; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention

Hon. George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)
Deputy Premier of Nunavut; Minister of Justice; Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut; Minister responsible for the Labour Standards Board; Minister responsible for the Human Rights Tribunal

Jamie Kablutsiak
(Arviat South)

Gordon Kautuk
(Uqqummiut)

Brian Koonoo
(Tununiq)

Simon Kuliktana
(Kugluktuk)

Hon. Cecile Nelvana Lyall
(Netsilik)
Acting Minister of Environment; Acting Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Hon. John Main
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister of Finance; Minister responsible for Indigenous Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Commission; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Board

Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)

Fred Pedersen
(Cambridge Bay)

David Porter
(Gjoa Haven)

Abraham Qammaniq
(Amittuq)

Jason Iqaluq
(Hudson Bay)

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

Hon. Craig Simailak
(Baker Lake)
Minister of Community Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation; Minister responsible for Mines; Minister responsible for Trade

Hon. Annie Tattuinee
(Rankin Inlet South)
Minister of Human Resources; Acting Minister of Culture and Heritage; Acting Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Steven Taqtu
(Quttiktuq)

Officers

Clerk
Stephen Innuksuk

Deputy Clerk
Wendy Bens

Clerk's Assistant
Kooyoo Nooshoota

Law Clerk
Michael Chandler

Sergeant at Arms
Maliktoo Nooshoota

Hansard Production
Uqausirmit Uqausirmut Inc.

926 Sivumugiaq Street,
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 3H0
Tel (867) 975-000 Fax (867)975-5190 Toll Free (877) 334-7266
Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer 1

Ministers' Statements 1

Members' Statements 9

Returns to Oral Questions 12

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery 14

Oral Questions 15

Tabling of Documents 36

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters 38

Report of the Committee of the Whole 56

Third Reading of Bills 56

Orders of the Day 56

A.

Daily References

November 4, 2026 1

B.

Ministers' Statements

141-7(2): Aqqusariaq Update (Brewster) 1
142-7(2): Congratulating Rhoda Palluq on Her Retirement (Healey Akearok) 2
143-7(2): New Point Rating System for Public Housing (Lyall) 3
144-7(2): Iqaluit Boat Launch Survey and Feedback (Hickes) 4
145-7(2): Nunavut Research Gatherings (Akeeagok) 5
146-7(2): Leadership Transition at the WSCC (Tattuine) 6
147-7(2): Progress on Gjoa Haven's New Power Plant (Healey Akearok) 7

C.

Members' Statements

153-7(2): Nunavut Youth Abroad (Kablutsiak) 9
154-7(2): Table Tennis Tournament (Taqtu) 9
155-7(2): Recognize Students (Koonoo) 10
156-7(2): Grade 12 Graduates (Pedersen) 10
157-7(2): Subject (Akeeagok) 11

D.

Returns To Oral Questions

190-7(2): Nunavut Inuit Employment Numbers (Tattuinee) 12
193-7(2): Federal Devolution Legislation (Main) 13
197-7(2): Homelessness Initiatives (Healey Akearok) 14

E.

Oral Questions

207-7(2): Health Regulations (Kautuk)..... 16
208-7(2): Granular Equipment and Supplies (Angootealuk) 17
209-7(2): Search and Rescue (Qammaniq) 19
210-7(2): Nunavut Teachers Accents (Koonoo)..... 22
211-7(2): Home Ownership Program (Taqtu) 23
212-7(2): Evaluating Applicants (Pedersen) 26
213-7(2): National Health Initiatives (Kablutsiak) 28
214-7(2): Foster Care (Mike) 31
215-7(2): Immunization Policy (Kuliktana)..... 33

F.

Tabling of Documents

90-7(2): Director of Medical Insurance's 2025/26 Medical Care Plan Annual Report (Brewster) 36
91-7(2): Nunavut Ethics Officer Annual Report Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (Tattuinee) 36
92-7(2): 2024-2025 Family Abuse Intervention Act Annual Report (Hickes)..... 37
93-7(2): 2024-2025 Nunavut Victim Services Annual Report (Hickes) 37
94-7(2): 2024 Nunavut Law Foundation Annual Report (Hickes) 37
95-7(2): 2024-2025 Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act Annual Report (Hickes)..... 37
96-7(2): 2025 Coroners Act Annual Report(Hickes) 37
97-7(2): Department of Education 2024-2025 Annual Report (Akeeagok)..... 37
98-7(2): 2024-2025 Report on The Student Financial Fund (Akeeagok) 37
99-7(2): 2025-2026 Report on The Student Financial Fund (Akeeagok) 37
100-7(2): 2026 Government of Nunavut Interim Financial Statements (Main) 37
101-7(2): 2025 2026 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut (Speaker)..... 38

G.

Bills

Bill 10 - Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027 2028 – Consideration in Committee 38
Bill 10 - Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027 202 – Third Reading 56

Iqaluit, Nunavut
November 4, 2026

Members Present:

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok, Hon. David Akeeagok, Ms. Hanna Angootealuk, Mr. Edward Attagutaluk, Hon. Janet Pitsiulaaq Brewster, Hon. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanasie, Mr. Jamie Kablutsiak, Mr. Gordon Kautuk, Hon. Brian Koonoo, Mr. Simon Kuliktana, Hon. Cecile Nelvana Lyall, Hon. John Main, Mr. Johnny Mike, Mr. Fred Pedersen, Mr. David Porter, Mr. Abraham Qammaniq, Hon. Craig Simailak, Mr. Steven Taqtu, Hon. Annie Tattuinee

>> House Commenced at 13:30.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Mr. Joanasie)(interpretation): Good afternoon. Item number 1. Opening prayer. Ms. Angootealuk, can you lead us in prayer.?

>>*Prayer*.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Good afternoon, members and people of Nunavut and all the visitors, please feel welcome. Item number 2, Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health, Ms. Brewster.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 141-7(2): Aqqusariaq Update

Hon. Janet Brewster: Good afternoon everyone. Mr. Speaker, today I am happy to share an important milestone for Aqqusariaq, Nunavut's new addictions and trauma recovery facility in Iqaluit. Substantial completion of the facility has been reached, bringing us closer to a vision more than a decade in the making.

Aqqusariaq was envisioned to bring healing and recovery services home to Nunavut, where individuals can be closer to their families, communities, language and culture.

The 24-bed facility was designed to support individuals and families from across the territory. Grounded in Inuit ways of knowing and being, it will provide inpatient addictions and trauma recovery services, including counselling, on-the-land programming and aftercare.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavummiut have helped guide this journey. Through gatherings and consultations, they have shared their knowledge and experiences to help shape both the facility and its programming.

I want to thank Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Indigenous Services Canada, the Culture and Lived Experience Advisory Committee, the development team and the many Nunavummiut whose dedication has helped bring Aqqusariaq to this milestone.

To celebrate this achievement, the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Indigenous Services Canada are hosting an Aqqusariaq Celebration and Open House on November 13 at the facility in Iqaluit. This will be an opportunity for Nunavummiut to tour Aqqusariaq and recognize the people and partnerships behind it.

Mr. Speaker, while the facility has reached substantial completion, work continues before it can welcome individuals seeking support. The Inuit-led not-for-profit that will operate Aqqusariaq is preparing for that day, including recruiting staff and developing programming. The not-for-profit will determine when Aqqusariaq is ready to open and share information about accessing its services.

We have reached an important point along the trail, and I look forward to seeing Aqqusariaq become a place where Nunavummiut can find support and healing closer to home.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Minister’s Statement 142-7(2): Congratulating Rhoda Palluq on Her Retirement

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate Iqaluit resident Ms. Rhoda Palluq on her retirement...

>>Applause

…celebrating an extraordinary career spanning four decades of service to the people of Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Ms. Palluq's career began in 1986, and from her earliest roles in education and economic development, she demonstrated a deep commitment to strengthening opportunities for Inuit and supporting community well-being. Over the years, she served in counselling, wellness programming, training and development, policy analysis, and leadership roles across multiple departments. Her work has touched nearly every aspect of social programming in our territory.

For the past 13 years, Ms. Palluq served as the Inuit Societal Values Implementation Advisor with the Department of Family Services. In this role, she has been a steady and trusted voice, helping ensure that programs, policies, and services reflect and uphold Inuit *Qaujimajatuqangit* and the values that guide our work.

Ms. Palluq is known for her professionalism, her kindness, and her unwavering dedication to public service. She has mentored colleagues, supported families, and helped build programs that will continue to benefit Nunavummiut for years to come. I can say without a doubt, Mr. Speaker, that Ms. Palluq's contributions have strengthened our department and supported meaningful change across government.

On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Ms. Palluq for her commitment, her leadership, and her many contributions. We wish her a joyful and fulfilling retirement, surrounded by family, friends, and community. *Qujannamiik*, for your many years of service.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We are proud of you for all your accomplishments. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Ms. Lyall.

Minister's Statement 143-7(2): New Point Rating System for Public Housing

Hon. Cecile Lyall: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Behind every public housing application is a person or family hoping for a safer, more stable place to live. We must understand their circumstances and ensure available homes go to those with the greatest need.

I am pleased to update the Members on the Nunavut Housing Corporation's work to modernize the Point Rating System for Public Housing. In response to the Auditor General's findings, the Nunavut Housing Corporation is preparing a more consistent and transparent approach to assessing housing needs.

Mr. Speaker, assessment practices currently differ across regions and communities. The proposed system will establish common criteria where applicants with similar needs are assessed more consistently, wherever they may live.

These criteria will better reflect the realities Nunavummiut face, including overcrowding, poor housing conditions, affordability pressures, and risks to their health and safety. They will help recognize the needs of people experiencing homelessness, families fleeing violence, and people living in homes that do not meet their disability or accessibility needs.

Mr. Speaker, Local Housing Organizations understand their communities. Their knowledge and judgment will continue to guide allocation decisions, with room to identify local priorities. The Nunavut Housing Corporation is preparing to test the proposed system with Local Housing Organizations to identify and address unintended effects before implementation and to ensure assessments use accurate applicant information.

The new system is not yet in effect. Testing will not change applicants' current rantings or allocation status. During testing, the system will preserve applicants' original application and waiting-list dates, and their personal information will remain protected.

Mr. Speaker, as we build more homes, we must also ensure public housing allocation decisions are fair, understandable, and grounded in need.

I thank Local Housing Organization Boards and staff for helping shape an approach that serves their communities. NHC will provide further information to support applicants and communities before the new system takes effect.

Quana, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Ministers' Statements. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Hickes.

Minister's Statement 144-7(2): Iqaluit Boat Launch Survey and Feedback

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, with Iqaluit's boating season soon coming to a close, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut (TIN) is taking a look back on the past year to start thinking about improvements that we can make for next year's boating season.

Mr. Speaker and members, the upgrades to Iqaluit's breakwater and causeway boat launch sites are still relatively new, as are TIN's operation of them.

This year, we heard of several issues impacting the boat launches, including abandoned vehicles and equipment taking up valuable space intended for short-term parking while boaters are on the water, and damage to parts of the ramps that rendered them temporarily unusable.

Mr. Speaker, in preparation for next year's boating season, we are soliciting feedback on how can improve our operations going forward.

Starting today until November 30, we are inviting users of the Iqaluit boat launches to complete an online survey to provide input on areas for improvement. Paper surveys can also be completed at the Iqaluit Centennial Library during regular business hours.

In addition, my department will be reaching out to the Amaruq Allaavik Hunters and Trappers Association and other stakeholders to gather their valuable feedback.

Mr. Speaker, we look forward to hearing from Iqalummiut boaters, and look forward to another safe and successful boating season in 2027. I encourage everyone to visit the Government of Nunavut website to access the link to the survey.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Akeeagok.

Minister's Statement 145-7(2): Nunavut Research Gatherings

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut has fascinated and attracted scientists and researchers from around the world for decades. While many of these externally driven projects are beneficial, many are shaped by the priorities and biases of southern institutions. Nunavummiut are working to strengthen our own research capacity, to reduce our reliance on outside experts and provide lasting benefits to Nunavummiut.

I am happy to share examples on how the Nunavut Arctic College is working to strengthen research governance and make science more accessible and responsive for Nunavummiut. Guided by the principle of *Piliriqatigiinniq*, the College emphasizes collaboration, transparency, and flexible approaches as highlighted in our partnership

with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The College is also developing a Research Agenda to strengthen our research capacity and ensure research in Nunavut is driven by the needs and priorities of Nunavummiut.

The Nunavut Research Institute and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated hosted a OneHealth Summit in Iqaluit, which brought together federal, northern, and academic partners to discuss wildlife health and to strengthen in-territory testing and wildlife disease surveillance capacity. The College, in partnership with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, operates the only wildlife parasite laboratory providing Trichinella testing in Nunavut by getting samples from the walrus tongue. This unique in-territory service demonstrates Nunavut's capacity to competently lead and deliver laboratory-based scientific research within the territory.

In May, the Nunavut Research Institute and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated co-hosted the second Nunavut Research Gathering in Iqaluit, with 56 participants representing Inuit organizations, research regulators, and licensing and permitting bodies across Nunavut, Nunavik, and the Eeyou Marine Region. Participants explored how to improve coordination and streamline research review and approval processes to improve efficiency, reduce duplication, and include Nunavummiut more meaningfully in research decision-making.

The research landscape of our territory is vast, layered, and carries with it a complicated past. While this is the case, Nunavut Arctic College, through the Nunavut Research Institute, consistently uses its voice to affirm the necessity of having the territory's people, land and experience at the centre of research. The College believes in Nunavut research for Nunavut.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (No interpretation).

Minister's Statement 146-7(2): Leadership Transition at the WSCC

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an important leadership transition at the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission of Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Rick Hunt will retire as President and Chief Executive Officer on January 14, 2027. He took on this position in October 2023, following almost 20 years of service with Nunavut's Qulliq Energy Corporation. Throughout his time with the Worker's Safety and

Compensation Commission, Rick has provided steady and thoughtful leadership. He has helped guide the organization as it prepares for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to welcome Harmeet Jagpal as the next President and Chief Executive Officer. Harmeet is a lifelong Northerner who brings more than 20 years of experience and a strong understanding of the Worker's Safety and Compensation Commission and the workers, employers and communities it serves.

He is currently the Vice-President of Performance and Corporate Services and has held several senior leadership positions within the organization, including Chief Information Officer and Acting President and Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Speaker, the Worker's Safety and Compensation Commission has a unique responsibility as a shared agency serving Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Since the creation of Nunavut in 1999, our two governments have maintained a strong partnership in delivering workers' compensation and occupational health and safety services.

This partnership reflects our shared commitment to ensuring workers are protected, employers are supported, and people who are injured at work receive the care and assistance they need.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Harmeet brings a strong commitment to safe, inclusive and respectful workplaces, as well as to ensuring injured workers receive compassionate care. I look forward to working with Harmeet and my counterpart in the Northwest Territories as we continue to strengthen workplace safety and support workers and employers across the North.

And finally, I would like to thank Rick for his leadership and wish him and his family all the best in his retirement.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Minister's Statement 147-7(2): Progress on Gjoa Haven's New Power Plant

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to provide an update on the construction of Gjoa Haven's new power plant, which will strengthen the community's electricity supply for decades to come.

The existing power plant was built in 1977 and has served the community for nearly 50 years. As Gjoa Haven continues to grow, replacing this aging facility is essential to meeting the community's increasing electricity needs.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to request unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Ministers -- the member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statements. Are there any nays? I don't hear any nays. Ms. Healey Akearok.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, construction of the new power plant began in late August 2025. This summer, all generator sets, equipment, and materials needed to complete the project arrived by sealift. With modern equipment, it will improve the reliability, safety, and efficiency of electricity generation, and provide the capacity needed to support future growth. Its design will also allow for the integration of renewable energy sources in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to visit the construction site and see firsthand the progress being made. It was encouraging to see the new facility taking shape and the dedication of the people working to bring this project to completion.

Construction continues to advance, and the new power plant is expected to be completed by March 2027.

I would like to recognize the local power plant operators, construction crews, and project teams for their continued efforts. I also acknowledge the collaboration between Qulliq Energy Corporation, the Hamlet of Gjoa Haven, Pilitak Enterprises, and the financial contribution from the federal government in moving this project forward. This is an excellent example of the power of partnerships and collaboration.

Mr. Speaker, bringing a new power plant online requires years of planning, meaningful investments, coordination, and dedicated work. From the early stages of development to the construction underway today, this project reflects a shared commitment to ensuring that Gjoa Haven has the reliable electricity infrastructure it needs, now and for generations to come.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to the *Orders of the Day*, Item number 3. And before we go to the members, please note that the member for Sanikiluaq, Mr. Iqaluq, will be absent today from the House, as he's still unwell. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat South.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 153-7(2): Nunavut Youth Abroad

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to encourage students that are attending high school in Arviat and across Nunavut schools to consider going over what Nunavut Youth Abroad offers. And I would like to highlight Ayalik Expeditions Program, "Nunavut Youth Abroad has embarked on a new partnership with Ayalik Expeditions through this, both NYA and Ayalik will be able to serve more youth, consolidate operations and strengthen the supports available for youth from across Nunavut.

Ayalik Expeditions offer northern youth, ages 14 to 18, opportunities to participate in canoeing, camping and sailing expeditions across Canada. These experiences provide youth with a chance to build self-esteem and confidence through challenging outdoor adventure, meeting other young Canadians and social-cultural exploration.

The philosophy underlying the Ayalik Expeditions is a reflection of Inuit cultural values, based in Inuit *Qaujimajatuqangit*, with the belief in the power of the land to nurture through enhancing an individual's inner connection to the environment."

If you know a youth who may benefit from one of our expeditions, please feel free to reach out to us on their behalf, and we can work together to see if our program will be a good fit for them.

And I would also like to encourage our young pages that are here at the House to consider for this program. Mr. Speaker, for those interested individuals, they can send an e-mail to ayalik@nya.ca. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for the High Arctic, Mr. Taqtu.

Member's Statement 154-7(2): Table Tennis Tournament

Mr. Taqtu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just last wee,k the youth attended a table tennis tournament, and there were quite a few from Arctic Bay, including the coach

Pukak Allorut and Seepoola Ijjangiaq, and also they won a medal -- in total 13 medals. Keegan Qamaniq, Sharon and Sheldon Allorut, and also my nephews Terran Inugu and Trudy Qaunaq for doubles.

And also I'm very pleased to announce that Paris Bohlender and Joyce Kigutaq won gold in the doubles.

On February 27 to March 2027, they will be going to the Arctic to the Canada Winter Games. Keegan Qamaniq and Sheldon Allorut will be attending. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): We congratulate those athletes who are involved in all those tournaments.

Members' Statements. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Koonoo.

Member's Statement 155-7(2): Recognize Students

Mr. Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I would like to send my regards to Pond Inlet.

On October 26, we recognize students who were awarded the Upinnaqtuq Awards. It was created in 2011 by the then Justice Beverly Brown, targeting especially the youth and the future.

I am very proud that Trisha Killiktee was recognized. She's from Pond Inlet, and congratulations Trisha, and we send our regards and congratulations for showcasing the Inuit culture and language, and I recognize you for what you've achieved to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Pedersen.

Member's Statement 156-7(2): Grade 12 Graduates

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to you all and to residents of Cambridge Bay that are watching our proceedings.

Today my community is holding another funeral. This is the third one in the last week. My thoughts are with those families, and on behalf of my family, I offer our sincerest condolences.

Mr. Speaker, as we are all aware, this government operates Nunavut Arctic College. This institution was created to offer post-secondary educational opportunities for our residents so that they can have jobs -- so that they can have educational requirements to apply on the jobs that this government requires.

Many Arctic College graduates are finding out that their diplomas are not enough as they are screened out of job competitions; the hiring panel advising them that they don't have the required experience to complement the educational requirements.

This is a bit of a Catch-22 for them, as how do they get the experience in the field after graduating when this government screens them out?

Mr. Speaker, this applies to many from the Social Service Worker Program, but it is not only limited to that program. I can site an example from region of a student of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program not being offered a job that she applied on for a student support assistant. That job, however, went to an individual with no teacher education whatsoever.

Mr. Speaker, these types of examples don't encourage our residents to take programs; it can do the opposite. It can discourage them.

Later today I'll be asking questions to the Minister responsible for Human Resources on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Mr. Akeeagok.

Member's Statement 157-7(2): Subject

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was very happy last night. Yesterday when they showcased Naomi Tatty, did some stories on people who went through the TB program. It was 29 minutes long, and was put together by Taqqut Productions.

In 2025, they have visited four Elders involving the youth and went to Hamilton where the sanitarium was attended by these four Elders. They were diagnosed, and it's not very well-known what kind of treatment was given to the people who attended the sanitariums. Many never made it back home, and many came back to strange situations.

I'm very pleased that we now have it on film and have preserved the stories where the youth were involved. They told about their experiences and were sent back there by Nunavut Tunngavik and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and Canada Heritage.

Naomi Tatty and SeeChange Initiative were able to put together that production, and it was something that was very much of an experience. I would like to congratulate them for preserving that history. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. When stories emerge from the past by our former citizens in Nunavut, they are dear to us. Thank you.

Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Moving on, Item 4, Returns to Oral Questions. Minister of Human Resources, Minister Tattuinee.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 190-7(2): Nunavut Inuit Employment Numbers

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Mr. Speaker. I rise today to supplement an answer I gave to the Member for Cambridge Bay’s question regarding the centralization of Human Resources.

Human Resources has historically been a centralized function within the Government of Nunavut, with the principal exceptions of staffing for teachers and nurses.

There are important reasons for that centralized approach.

The Government of Nunavut is one employer. A centralized Human Resources function helps ensure that employees and candidates are treated fairly and consistently across government, regardless of which department they work for or apply to.

It also ensures that departments have access to specialized expertise in areas such as staffing, labour relations, job evaluation, employee relations and workforce planning, rather than requiring every department to maintain that expertise independently.

Centralization also supports consistent application of our collective agreements, legislation, policies and staffing practices, while providing government-wide oversight and accountability.

We recognize that departments need Human Resources services that are timely, responsive and connected to their operational needs. That is why we are reviewing how those services are delivered.

We want to preserve the fairness, consistency, expertise and accountability that come from a centralized system, while improving service to departments and ultimately supporting better delivery of programs and services to Nunavummiut.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. Nunavut Premier, Mr. Main.

Return to Oral Question 193-7(2): Federal Devolution Legislation

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) during question period on November 2, 2026, the Member for Pangnirtung asked if and when the federal government will be introducing mirror bills into House of Commons to move the devolution process forward.

Under section 3.7 of the Devolution Agreement, the Government of Canada is obligated to introduce into Parliament and support, as a government, the legislation necessary to ensure that the Commissioner of Nunavut has the administration and control of Public Lands and rights in respect of Waters, and that the Nunavut Legislature has the authority to make laws in relation to Public Lands, Waters, and the disposition of any right or interest in Public Lands or any right in respect of Waters.

This legislation is an essential component of ensuring that the transfer of responsibilities and authorities can proceed as scheduled on April 1, 2027.

The Government of Canada is currently drafting the necessary legislation and has been keeping the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated updated on its progress through the Devolution Legislation Working Group.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to distinguish between the legislative work being undertaken by the Government of Nunavut and that being undertaken by the Government of Canada.

The Government of Nunavut is required to introduce bills that establish territorial legislation “mirroring” the existing federal legislative framework for Public Lands, Waters, surface rights, oil and gas, and archaeological and paleontological resources. In contrast, the Government of Canada is developing legislation to give legal effect to the transfer of responsibilities and authorities to the Government of Nunavut. Technically, Canada is not mirroring legislation; rather, it is enacting the necessary federal legislation to give effect to and operationalize the Government of Nunavut's mirrored legislation.

With respect to timing, the precise date for introducing the federal legislation is a matter for the Government of Canada to determine. However, given the April 1, 2027 transfer date established in the Agreement, the necessary legislation will need to be introduced, considered and passed by Parliament in sufficient time to give effect to the transfer. Through the Devolution process, the Government of Canada has confirmed that it will complete this important legislative work in time to meet the April 1, 2027 transfer date.

The Government of Nunavut will continue to work closely with the Government of Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to the ensure the necessary legislative framework is in place to give effect to the Devolution Agreement.

Matna, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 4, Responses to Oral Questions. Minister of Homelessness, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Return to Oral Question 197-7(2): Homelessness Initiatives

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation endsI rise today to supplement an answer I gave to the Member for Amittuq regarding question 197-7(2) on the topic of homelessness initiatives. As of today, cabins are completed or are underway in Sanirajak, Sanikiluaq, Kugaaruk, Iqaluit, Chesterfield Inlet, Naujaat, Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, Arctic Bay, Baker Lake, Igloolik, Kugluktuk, Taloyoak, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Gjoa Haven.

Mr. Speaker, Family Services is finalizing the next round of Ikur’raq funding and is establishing a committee to review applications. The committee will include regional Homelessness Outreach Workers whose frontline experience will help identify community needs and guide funding priorities. The department expects to finalize the committee this week and will then prepare a public service announcement inviting applications.

Mr. Speaker, neither Sanirajak nor Igloolik currently has an established homelessness shelter or family violence shelter. Family Services has not received requests from either community to establish, maintain, or operate either type of shelter.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Mr. Akeeagok.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me recognize the visitors here. My nephew, great to have him come here for a visit, and I won't be seeing here Maric Akeeagok, and I won't be seeing him for a while. And the crew that did a documentary that I mentioned earlier Naomi Tatty, she (indiscernible). Also Carol Devine, Hannah Roberts, and Niaqunnguu resident, Kianna Nuyalic; great to see you. And my in-law Toby Otak. And to my left, Sherri Young, who will be assisting me here today. And also Rick Hunt, I thank you for your retirement. Welcome.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. I think Mr. Akeeagok mentioned all the names. Recognition of Visitors of the Gallery, Arviat North and Taloyoak, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I recognize all the visitors who were previously recognized. And Mr. Sparks, who is sitting across the House, Kina Sparks (ph) is here in the Assembly as part of Bring Your Youth to Work Day through his schooling. And so who knows, maybe this will be the start of his career in this building.

>>Laughter.

Certainly there's many career paths available to you, whether it be in the Legislative Assembly or elsewhere within the Government of Nunavut, and I hope you feel welcome today. (interpretation) Let us welcome him.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome everybody to your house. I would just like to recognize my friend and former colleague, Harmeet Jagpal. I was with the WSCC Governance Council for years, and he taught me a lot, and I can say without a doubt that WSCC is in very very good hands. Welcome to Iqaluit and welcome to your new role. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Assembly. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names. Moving on, Item 6, Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Uqqummiut MLA, Mr. Kautuk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 207-7(2): Health Regulations

(interpretation)Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

My questions today are for the Minister of Health, and they concern regulations administered by her department.

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister is aware, the Office of the Auditor General of Canada has publicly announced that it will be submitting a report to the Legislative Assembly next year concerning the management of drinking water in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, access to safe drinking water is a basic human right.

Mr. Speaker, one of the responsibilities of the territorial Department of Health is the administration of the Public Water Supply Regulations under the Public Health Act.

As the Minister will recall, the government's Drinking Water Strategic Framework was tabled in the Legislative Assembly in May of 2023.

Information published by the government indicates that, "A strategic framework was first developed to reflect the key elements of drinking water programs that are required to produce a sufficient quantity of drinking water that meets the treatment parameters of the forthcoming Nunavut Municipal Drinking Water Regulations. The forthcoming regulatory changes in Nunavut are anticipated to reflect the Health Canada Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality."

Can the Minister describe how her department is involved in the development of the new territorial regulations concerning drinking water?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Health oversees inspections of water plants and provides direction to water treatment operators, and Health works with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut to address issues as they arise.

The development of the new drinking water regulations to replace the public water supply regulations is ongoing, and that's also in collaboration with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Kautuk.

Mr. Kautuk: (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for your response. (interpretation ends)

Can the Minister indicate when the new territorial regulations concerning municipal drinking water will be approved and into force?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't say exactly when they will be ready. They are currently under review by a third party engineering firm to assess their fitness, and as soon as that is done, we should be ready to keep moving forward with them. However, I don't have a date at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Kautuk.

Mr. Kautuk: (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

Can the Minister confirm how often her department conducts tests and inspections under the current Public Water Supply Regulations in the communities of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Environmental Health Officers aim to inspect water plants twice every fiscal year. I don't have that level of detail with me right now. However, I would be happy to get back to the member with information about whether or not those inspections have already taken place this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Following the list of names, I have member for Aivilik, Ms. Angootealuk.

Oral Question 208-7(2): Granular Equipment and Supplies

Ms. Angootealuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

My questions today are for the Minister of Community Services.

I want to revisit the issue of gravel.

As the Minister will recall, I asked him a number of questions during the spring sitting of the Legislative Assembly about this subject.

At that time, I indicated that the Municipality of Coral Harbour has identified a potential new quarry site, and is requesting help to develop an access road to the site.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister stated that he would be able to meet with the community's municipal council to discuss its needs.

Can the Minister update the House today on what discussions he or his department have had with the Municipality of Coral Harbour regarding its granular needs?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Community Services, Minister Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for her question regarding the granular needs for her community, Constituency of Coral Harbour. The staff has been working with the hamlet looking at the proposed site that the hamlet prefers. To my knowledge and recollection, it is outside the municipal boundaries, and I believe it's on the Crown. Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada needs to be involved in that. So there are discussions going on trying to look at to see how we can help the municipality secure that site. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Ms. Angootealuk.

Ms. Angootealuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, it is important that all Nunavut communities, including Coral Harbour and Naujaat, have adequate equipment, including gravel screeners and rock crushers.

Can the Minister provide an update today on what assistance has been provided to the two communities?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding the two communities, her two constituencies asking about for granular equipment screeners or whatnot, the department

did move away from granular crushing equipment. In collaboration with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities being moved over to the Municipal Capital Block Funding that each hamlet has access to provided they provide an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan or provide a Capital Plan of either one year or five years.

And regarding the exact specific equipment for those constituencies, I don't have that on me right now, but I can commit to getting back to the member with that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Ms. Angootealuk.

Ms. Angootealuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and the Minister. (interpretation ends)

Can the Minister describe how his department is working with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities to address issues related to granular supplies and equipment?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for her question regarding Nunavut Association of Municipalities. It is an organization that we have a lot of good working relations with. As they work with all the hamlets across the territory and they meet regularly, so they help us out to address needs across the territory.

Each community has their own little concerns or issues they need help with. That is how the department works with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. We appreciate all their work, all the hamlets, all the mayors do put in their two cents through that association. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Qammaniq.

Oral Question 209-7(2): Search and Rescue

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

My questions today are for the Minister of Community Services.

Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by expressing my appreciation to search and rescue volunteers in Sanirajak, Igloolik and all Nunavut communities.

Mr. Speaker, during Monday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the Minister made a Statement concerning the upcoming Search and Rescue Roundtable that will be held in the capital city.

Mr. Speaker, I support important gatherings such as this.

Can the Minister confirm if all 25 Nunavut communities, including Sanirajak and Igloolik, will be represented at the roundtable?

Qujannamiik.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Community Services, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for her question regarding Search and Rescue. Search and Rescue is an integral organization that we have in all of our communities. We certainly appreciate all the work that they do for our constituents, Nunavummiuqativut as they go in all kinds of weather trying to figure out or find people that are lost and whatnot and bring them back safely.

And regarding the upcoming Search and Rescue roundtable that's going to be here in Iqaluit, invitations were sent out to all the hamlet communities' Search and Rescue Organizations; I do not have the list right now who's all coming in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Mr. Qammaniq.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Community Services is responsible for administering the Government of Nunavut's Community-Based Search and Rescue Contributions Policy.

The policy was most recently updated in the year 2017 and sunsetted in the year 2022.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister recently informed the House that, "The department is in the final steps of updating the policy of reflecting emerging needs of local ground Search and Rescue. The new policy will reflect increasing needs for training, equipment and other resources that can help with Search and Rescue within our territory."

Mr. Speaker, that sounds encouraging.

Can the Minister describe what new resources will be allocated to achieve these objectives?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question regarding search and rescue equipment that may be coming forward to the communities across the territory.

It will encompass I'm sure new and old equipment that's coming out there; technology has been changing quite rapidly. A lot of times now people are using Zoleo and inReach devices to communicate back and forth. I'm sure they're also looking at the newest Apple iPhones, where they have the capability of texting from the land through a satellite network.

Those are the kinds of things that we have been looking at to see how we can help Search and Rescue coordinators across the territory to better equip all of our Search and Rescue Organizations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Final supplementary question, Mr. Qammaniq.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Yes, thank you. (interpretation ends)

As the Minister is aware, I have tabled a number of exchanges of correspondence that I have had with federal leaders concerning the need for new search and rescue infrastructure in Nunavut.

Can the Minister update the House on what discussions he has had with his federal counterparts on this issue?

Qujannamiik.

Speaker: Minister Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question regarding discussions between federal counterparts. We are continually discussing with her Office what we may need in Nunavut going forward.

There's a lot of changes going on in the territory. Climate change is happening. The waters are staying open longer. So there's a few different variables we are looking at, and we are working with that Office to see what more or what we can advocate for for Nunavummiut regarding Search and Rescue based operations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Koonoo.

Oral Question 210-7(2): Nunavut Teachers Accents

Mr. Koonoo (interpretation)**:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Today I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education. As I have heard from Pond Inlet, and also the students hearsay -- my children say that there's some teachers quite a few teachers, especially new Canadians and even though they are speaking in English, the students cannot understand their accent, even though their teachers it's critical for our children's learning. Can are Minister tell me if he knows that the new teachers when they are applying for a position, do they do a testing of their English proficiency? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Education, Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the teachers have been selected, they do a screening and they do questions and they ask them what they -- and their qualifications. They are interviewed with that, and the staff do the selection, and they use the process properly when they are selecting teachers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Mr. Koonoo.

Mr. Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, our forefather work very hard and worked through difficulties going to residential school and going for churches and they were sent to school even though they are unilingual speaking people and it had a negative impact on the former students.

When the teachers become teachers do you orientate them Inuit culture, and also like Inuit traditional ways of saying no like crunching their nose? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Koonoo.

Mr. Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My supplementary question for this, I'm very concerned about the students learning and when you understand exactly what's being said you learn a lot more and the students are

tested about their -- tested and they are given report cards. The new immigrants that come to Canada and the students and also the teachers that can speak English and can they do evaluation on the report cards or to make sure that everybody's fluent in that language? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The teachers have professional development within the year, and they take breaks from teaching so that they can take professional development. And the principals and other staff, they look to see how else we can support the teachers. So that is done and will continue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. According to my list, member for Quttiktuq, High Arctic, Mr. Taqtu.

Oral Question 211-7(2): Home Ownership Program (Taqtu)

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, as the youngest Member of the Legislative Assembly, I belong to the generation of Canadians that often feels that homeownership is out of reach.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to hear the Minister's Statement that she made last week about the Nunavut Housing Corporation's modernized Tenant to Owner Program.
Mr. Speaker, the Minister's Statement indicated that, "The Tenant to Owner Program will begin on a modest scale, with a limited number of homes available for purchase. The Nunavut Housing Corporation will determine which units can be offered for sale, taking into account tenant interest and broader housing needs, along with financial and operational considerations."

Can the Minister clarify how the Nunavut Housing Corporation will determine which communities will participate in this program?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister for Nunavut Housing Corporation, Ms. Lyall.

Hon. Cecile Lyall: I thank the member for the question. Currently at the Nunavut Housing Corporation we are conducting our building assessment, and we're about 75 percent complete in those assessments throughout our whole owned building portfolio.

When we're looking into which units would come in, would be available for the Tenant to Owner Program, we're looking at the condition of the unit itself, ensuring that the building is up to code for the homeownership program, and ensuring that we would not be offloading an asset to a family that would need significant renovations.

And also, in all of our communities there is a very critical need for housing -- public housing specifically, so we would also be assessing the number of units we have in the community with how many individuals are on the waitlist and how many units we would be constructing in the coming years.

So taking all of this into consideration, we do anticipate the first year of this program being quite small, while also looking at building it up as we continue building more units across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Minister's Statement also indicated that, "Eligible tenants in public or staff housing will be able to apply to purchase selected public housing units. To qualify, applicants must secure conventional mortgage financing and demonstrate readiness to manage the ongoing costs of home maintenance. The Tenant to Owner Program is designed to be stackable; eligible applicants may also receive assistance through the Nunavut Down Payment Assistance Program."

As the Minister will recall, she tabled the Nunavut Housing Corporation's 2024-2025 annual report during the Legislative Assembly's sitting of June 8, 2026.

The report indicate that although 22 applications under the Nunavut Downpayment Assistance Program were approved from residents of Iqaluit during the fiscal year, no applications were approved from any other Qikiqtaaluk communities.

For Nunavut as a whole, almost 95% of approved applications were from residents of the three regional centres.

Can the Minister describe how the Nunavut Housing Corporation is working with Local Housing Organizations to raise awareness of this program in smaller communities, including Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay and Arctic Bay?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Lyall.

Hon. Cecile Lyall: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question. For the fiscal year 2025-2026, in the Qikiqtani we only received applications from Iqaluit for the Nunavut Down Payment Assistance Program. Our staff at our Homeownership Program office are continually working with district staff within all regions, and really trying to advocate to ensure that individuals from across Nunavut, not just in the regional hubs, have knowledge of the programs and have access to the assistance available through the programs.

So for 2025-2026 for the Down Payment Assistance Program, although we only received applications from here in Iqaluit, we did receive applications for our other programs from across the Qikiqtani. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As the Minister is aware, the Nunavut Housing Corporation offers a range of programs to help private homeowners undertake repairs and renovations.

A longstanding challenge has been to assist homeowners in smaller communities where there is a lack of resources, such as general building contractors, certified electricians and plumbers.

Can the Minister indicate how the Nunavut Housing Corporation is addressing this issue?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Ms. Lyall.

Hon. Cecile Lyall: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for the question. As the member stated, in a majority of our communities, we don't have local contractors in the community to conduct a lot of the work that we do receive requests for for repairs, and a lot of the time that work would fall on to our local housing organization.

We do experience capacity constraints at the local housing organizations managing our public housing and maintenance for our public housing, and in some communities staff housing. So they don't always have the ability to take on additional work.

We have been working with our LHO's and individuals with applications in the Repair Program in trying to help them access outside contractors where available, and as we are looking into adjusting the programs and ensuring that they are accessible to

Nunavummiut, we are also considering the different program areas and the amounts within those programs.

So hopefully going forward we would have a clearer picture of the needs of those programs. The costs of repair say here in Iqaluit is very different than it would be in Griese Fiord, and we do recognize that and we're hoping that that can be reflected within our programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Pedersen.

Oral Question 212-7(2): Evaluating Applicants

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As I mentioned earlier, my questions today are for the Minister of Human Resources. To start I want to make it clear that I'm not against there government hiring non-Inuit staff. I do however support the requirement of this government in meeting its obligation of having a representative level of Inuit employment as laid out in Article 23 of the Nunavut Agreement.

Mr. Speaker, there are many programs available to residents in terms of getting an education, either here in Nunavut or educational institutions outside of Nunavut. There are also seemingly endless pots of money that residents can tap into to take part in those programs, including the dedicated funding that this government has recently received from the latest implementation contract, for the specific purpose of training for Inuit.

Mr. Speaker, my first question to the minister is does the department rate applicants application the same whether they have graduated from a program from Nunavut based institutions versus applicants that have graduated from outside of Nunavut institutions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Human Resources, Ms. Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. My only response can be that it depends on the program the individual is taking and what level of certification their rating is reaching. When it comes to Nunavut Arctic College and Social Work programs, there are various levels that are made available, certificate diploma and then on towards bachelors and masters degrees after that.

So that being said, it depends on the program that's being made available in the North and elsewhere. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Pedersen.

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Minister for the answer and clarifying it.

My next question is when the department is evaluating applicants, how does it rate the experience level of applicants? Do they only look at the actual work experience in the field that they are applying for, or do they look at a candidates lived experience as well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for that question. There can be a number of reasons why someone is screened out. Sometimes experience is there, but it may not be clear enough written on their resume or their application; qualifications might not align closely enough with the job description or the requirements for the position.

The master Inuit Employment Plan will be guarding our Nunavut-wide efforts, government-wide efforts to increase Nunavut employment, and sets out short-, medium- and long-term goals. As well as part that work, we will work with departments to review job descriptions to ensure that the qualifications aren't inflated for the requirements, and the work experience and language requirements are there.

We also as a government have where gaps between school and employment, the Government of Nunavut departments work with Nunavut Arctic College, and I recently had an opportunity to meet with some of the individuals nearly graduating from the Social Worker Program and hear from them on their experience, which includes summer employment opportunities for individuals to gain Nunavut government experience while they're home from schooling or while they're attending school after hours. So we've expanded the program to increase those opportunities for individuals to get experience throughout.

If it's not specifically identified when they're looking at the criteria, I would encourage individuals to look at the requirements of the position and speak to the staffing officers and/or career development officers, if that might be available in their community, to see how they match up and opportunities to identify their experience more clearly on their resume and/or completion of application forms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your second and final supplementary question, Mr. Pedersen.

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My final question is and I don't expect the Minister to have this amount of detail at her fingertips, but I think she can likely have her staff find it and reply later.

I want to know, and if this information can even be divulged, what are the numbers of employees in Family Services family wellness division that have graduated from outside of Nunavut institutions versus the number it that have graduated from Nunavut based institutions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Human Resources, Ms. Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: I thank the member for that question. I don't believe the department tracks actually where the certification comes from in terms of post-secondary education.

As I indicated in my earlier response, we did have an opportunity to speak with individuals and actually celebrate graduation of individuals from the social worker program and the Nunavut teachers education program recently, and heard their concerns and has taken them into account; and we are developing plans through the master Inuit Employment Plan to ensure that all of those initiatives and possibilities of transition from education to employment, as well as help them to identify their lived experience, as the member indicated earlier in his initial question.

So all of those things are starting to be taken into account, and we're trying to do a better job of planning and transitioning individuals from education into the Government of Nunavut public service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Oral Question 213-7(2): National Health Initiatives

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My questions today are for the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I have spoken in this House on a number of occasions regarding the importance of having adequate resources in our community health centres.

As the Minister will recall, she met with her federal, provincial and territorial counterparts in Winnipeg last month to discuss a number of issues.

One of the announcements from these meetings indicated that, Ministers discussed the federal letter received yesterday to extend the expiring 10-year agreements for mental

health and substance use and home and community care for only one year, and with no mention of the Canada Health Transfer, or other bilateral agreements."

Can the Minister explain what impact this will have on Nunavut?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Ms. Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for this question. In the end, the funding for the home community care and the mental health and addictions programming was extended.

Nunavut receives a relatively small amount of that bigger picture of funding nationally. We have an opportunity now to look forward to meeting with our federal counterparts in order to re-negotiate our transfer so that it reflects our needs.

So I feel like we're in a really good place right now, and the so-called "fiscal cliff" that my provincial and territorial counterparts have been worried about seems to have been avoided at this point. And we're looking forward to moving forward on renegotiating for the years to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Minister for the response. Mr. Speaker, a number of my colleagues have spoken about the importance of getting immunized against deadly diseases.

One of the announcements from the recent meeting indicated that, "Ministers considered broader public health priorities, including confronting ongoing pressures on immunization programs. Recognizing that vaccines save lives, improve health outcomes and reduce health care costs, Ministers received information on jurisdictional strategies to strengthen vaccine uptake, improve access and build trust through community engagement."

Can the Minister describe how her department is approaching this issue?

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I appreciate that question. Vaccine hesitancy is a global problem right now. Our program through the Government of Nunavut provides vaccines for, or immunizations for 14 different vaccinations, and we work really hard, as you know, with our colleagues at the Department of Education, as well as our colleagues around the table to ensure that people are well-educated or better educated with science-based information about the efficacy of vaccines and about how

important it is to be immunized for the safety of not only your own health, but for the health of our communities.

And so one of the really important steps that we've taken recently as well is to develop a health-specific social media presence through that Facebook page that will provide more information to Nunavummiut who might have questions or concerns about vaccine hesitancy. And we're always encouraging people to be vaccinated so that we can help to do our part, not just for Nunavummiut but globally as well, to bring back down things like measles and polio where people are starting to see an upsurge in certain areas because of vaccine hesitancy.

So there's a lot of work that goes into that through our public health units, our community health representatives, our public health nurses, our midwifery program. We do a lot of public education one-on-one as well, again, through media to engage people to get vaccinated. They're safe, they're available and we should all avail of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your second and final supplementary question, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Another issue that was addressed at the meeting concerned sharing of information.

The announcement indicated that, “Ministers recognize the importance of timely and effective sharing of public health information to help protect and promote the health of people across Canada. Ministers from participating jurisdictions affirmed their support for a new Canadian Public Health Information Sharing Agreement and look forward to signing it soon.”

Mr. Speaker, an issue that was raised at our recent televised hearing on the annual report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner was the lack of health-specific privacy legislation in Nunavut.

Can the Minister confirm when she will be introducing a Bill to address this issue?

Speaker: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We've gone through an internal process related to that privacy legislation. I'm just trying to pull up where we're at now. We've got some work related to that and I can't seem to find that information at the moment.

However, I can say that we have had public consultation process on that, and that includes an online survey. We are looking forward to continuing that work.

And I'll have to get back to the member on specifics related to that, as I can't seem to find it in my binder right now, and it's not right on the tip of my tongue. I apologize. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: (No interpretation).

Oral Question 214-7(2): Foster Care (Mike)

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the foster care program, and I will direct it to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, during yesterday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, you tabled a copy of the Auditor General's report on foster care in Nunavut. they were started November 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026, and here are the copy, and thank you for tabling that annual report.

The Minister's department has issued an announcement in response to the report. (interpretation ends)

The announcement indicates that the department is, "strengthening prevention and family supports, improving oversight, equipping frontline staff with more tools and training, and supporting kinship and foster caregivers in the important role they play."

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, those words are good. (interpretation ends)

Can the Minister clearly indicate what additional staffing and budgetary resources have been allocated to achieve these objectives?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Family Services, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) and I thank the member for this important question. I also have my copy of the report that was tabled yesterday. It's a very important document, and we appreciate the efforts of the Office of the Auditor General in shining a light on the areas where we need to improve in the department, and we accept their findings and their recommendations; and in many ways it validates the trajectory of the department where a number of the actions that are needed to address their concerns are already underway.

And so to the member's question, the staff and budgetary resources are already in process as we've been working to strengthen our foster care system in the department. And some

examples I can give in the case of our Matrix Information System, for example, Mr. Speaker, where that training has been unfolding in a regular professional development cycle in the department since its rollout, and there's another training happening this month. So some of these initiatives are ongoing to strengthen the use of our information system, for example.

I'm also able to highlight that as of now, 97 percent of the home studies have been completed, 92 percent of the vulnerable sector checks have been completed, and 82 percent of the annual home reviews have been completed. So that work is being done by the Family Wellness Division and by our frontline staff with the resources that have been allocated in this current fiscal year. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister, for your response.

Mr. Speaker, personally I recognize the Minister's portfolio is very challenging.

When I first sat as an MLA, I also was posted as a Minister in this office. I have sat on that side of the House myself, and many of the issues that the (no interpretation) (interpretation ends)

Can the Minister indicate what the department will do differently to address them?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Healey Akearok.

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) and thank you for the follow-up question. As I mentioned, many of the actions that are required to remedy these gaps are already underway in the Matrix System, in the home studies, in the training and tool areas. There's also most recently the increase to the foster caregiver rates, support rates. So there was a 45 percent increase to that rate, which was effective April 1., and then other initiatives that are ongoing.

We recognize that where the system has fallen short, it's our responsibility to correct it, and there has been an increasing trajectory over the years. Year over year the budgetary allocations for the Department of Family Services have been increasing, and we thank the Assembly for that.

And we're going to continue to work to address the underlying issues that have been identified in the audit, because our children and youth deserve the best possible system that we can give them. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Minister. (interpretation ends)

The government's response to the report of the Auditor General confirmed that it has introduced a 45% increase in compensation for foster families.

Can the Minister clarify how much funding her department will require to implement this increase?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Healey Akearok.

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) and I thank the member for the follow-up question. The foster care program is demand-driven, so we don't know what the demand will be in any given year. It changes.

But I can bring the member's comment back to my officials for a more fulsome discussion on this topic and share what I can provide at a later date. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Kugluktuk MLA, Mr. Kuliktana.

Oral Question 215-7(2): Immunization Policy

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Health.

As the Minister will recall, I asked questions yesterday to the Minister of Education concerning the subject of the government's new Directive on the Administration of Immunizations and Other Health Programs in Schools, which was jointly developed by the Department of Health and the Department of Education.

Mr. Speaker, I did not receive clear answers to all of my questions, so I will revisit some of them today. Nunavummiut need to hear clear answers.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that some Canadian jurisdictions require that parents provide proof that their children have been immunized again certain communicable deadly diseases, such as polio or measles, before they can be enrolled in public school.

Can the Minister clearly indicate whether or not children in Nunavut are required to be immunized against communicable diseases before they can be enrolled in public school?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Education, Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't say that definitively. However, what I can say is that Department of Health, as I said earlier, holds a number of vaccine clinics for children that are related to their ages and their growth, and we have weekly Well Child clinic days that are specifically for immunizations, and we work really hard to ensure that parents and caregivers are educated about the efficacy of immunizations and how they protect the health of their children, as well as those around them.

I can get back to the member on the specifics about what might be required to enter into -- what vaccines might be required to enter into kindergarten, for example. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister, for your response.

As I noted yesterday, the Minister of Health has made a number of Statements during our current sitting concerning the issue of immunization and I again thank her for leading by example and getting her shots here in the Assembly Building.

Can the Minister of Health indicate approximately what percentage of students in Nunavut schools have received their recommended series of childhood vaccinations against deadly diseases like polio and measles?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can tell the member that we are currently working towards the development of an immunization registry. We currently don't have one in the territory.

What I do know is the data from the 2017 Childhood National Immunization Coverage Survey suggested that up-to-date coverage for diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus among children in Nunavut was more than 10 percent below the national coverage rate.

We're working hard to ensure that people are more aware of how important these immunizations are, and that same period of time -- again, I apologize, this is nearly 10 year old data; however this is what we have currently. Nunavut ranked lowest of all Canadian provinces and territories for up-to-date coverage estimates for influenza type B or haemophilus influenza type B, which can cause meningitis and pneumonia, measles, mumps, rubella and vaccine, and polio vaccination amongst children aged 2 to 7 years.

So what we're hoping to do by developing this registry is to better able or to better track the uptake of these important childhood immunizations so that we can target parents and children with information and encouragement to receive those immunizations based on realtime knowledge of who is immunized and who is not. And this is really important work and I appreciate the member for bringing this to everyone's attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary, Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, it is very troubling that we live in a world where measles and polio are once again threatening the health of our communities and people.

As I noted yesterday, disinformation and social media have contributed to people being less likely to follow expert advice.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister’s department recently announced that it has created a new Facebook page.

Can the Minister describe how the department will use this platform to publish accurate information about the importance of immunizations against deadly diseases?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker (interpretation ends), and I thank the member for asking this very important question. One of the things that we have been working on as we have been working hard to get our health-specific access to creating a social media page or presence on Facebook has been to start to collate different

public service announcements and different bits of information that we can share on that page.

I think that as we move forward with that information, it will certainly be in areas that target specific gaps in information that people might have.

We will also be able to have readily available information to publish on our social media to counteract misinformation if something, for lack of a better term, goes viral about any kind of public health information. We'll have the information at our fingertips to publish that is scientifically backed and, also importantly, translated into our official languages so that it can be shared with individuals based on what language they would like to receive it in.

So again, I thank the member for asking these important questions. We're ready to provide masses of good science-based information to all Nunavummiut through our Facebook page. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Carrying on, *Orders of the Day*. 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. Minister of Health, Ms. Brewster.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 90-7(2): Director of Medical Insurance's 2025/26 Medical Care Plan Annual Report

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to table the Director of Medical Assurances 2025-2026 Medical Care Plan Annual Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: (interpretation) Tabling of Documents, Minister of Human Resources, Minister Tattuinee.

Tabled Document 91-7(2): Nunavut Ethics Officer Annual Report Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to table the Nunavut Ethics Officer 2025-2026 Annual Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Justice, Mr. Hickes.

Tabled Document 92-7(2): 2024-2025 Family Abuse Intervention Act Annual Report

Tabled Document 93-7(2): 2024-2025 Nunavut Victim Services Annual Report

Tabled Document 94-7(2): 2024 Nunavut Law Foundation Annual Report

Tabled Document 95-7(2): 2024-2025 Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act Annual Report

Tabled Document 96-7(2): 2025 Coroners Act Annual Report

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to table five reports today: the 2024-2025 Annual Report of the *Family Abuse Intervention Act,* the Nunavut Victim Services 2024-2025 Annual Report, the 2024 Annual Report of the Nunavut Law Foundation, the 2024-2025 Annual Report of the *Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act*; and Mr. Speaker, as committed yesterday, the Office of the Chief Coroner's 2025 Annual Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents, Minister of Education, Mr. Akeeagok.

Tabled Document 97-7(2): Department of Education 2024-2025 Annual Report

Tabled Document 98-7(2): 2024-2025 Report on The Student Financial Fund

Tabled Document 99-7(2): 2025-2026 Report on The Student Financial Fund

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have three documents to table: the Department of Education 2024-2025 Annual Report, and also 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 Annual Report, and the Funding of Teachers on the Financial Assistance. It would be a very good material to read at bedtime. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tabling of Documents, Minister of Finance, Mr. Main.

Tabled Document 100-7(2): 2026 Government of Nunavut Interim Financial Statements

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table the 2026 Government of Nunavut Interim Financial Statements. Mr. Speaker, once the Inuktitut translations are completed, I'll file the documents with the clerk's office for distribution to all members. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Tabled Document 101-7(2): 2025 2026 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. I have one document to table today, which is the 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut. Thank you. Tabling of Documents.

Moving on, Item number 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 of the Committee of the Whole, Bill 5, 10, 11, 13 and 15 with Mr. Pedersen in the Chair. So, we'll take a 20-minute recess. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House breaks at 15:25; Committee commences at 15:48

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

Chairman (Pedersen): Good afternoon and welcome back. I call this Committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15. What is the wish of the Committee? Mr. Taqtu, go ahead.

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We wish to continue with the consideration of Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028*; and the proposed 2027-2028 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Arctic College, the Department of Culture and Heritage, and the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Are we in agreement we first deal with Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028*?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 10 - Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027 2028 – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to ask Minister Akeeagok, do you have officials you would like to appear before the Committee?

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

Chairman: Does the Committee agree to let the Minister's officials appear before you?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant at Arms, please escort them in. And for the record, Minister Akeeagok, please introduce your officials.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you. To my right, Jackie Price, and she's the president of Arctic College. And also to my left, Bola Lawal, for Capital Estimates Plan for the Arctic College. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akeeagok. Yesterday, Mr. Akeeagok completed his Opening Comments on Nunavut Arctic College, followed by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development who also completed his Opening Comments. Do members have any general comments before we proceed to detailed questions? Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Chair. The College's 2026-2027 capital estimates included 1.5 million in Ongoing Lifecycle Funding. As of today, how much of this funding has been spent? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuliktana. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, 1.52 -- $1,522,890 have been spent to date. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akeeagok. Mr. Kuliktana, go ahead.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you Minister for the response. The College's proposed 2027-2028 capital estimates include 2.5 million in Ongoing Lifecycle Funding. The capital substantiation sheet for this funding identifies six projects totalling 2.018 million. What additional Lifecycle projects are planned to be undertaken during the upcoming 2027-2028 fiscal year? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuliktana. Go ahead, Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, in addition to those six, it's going to vary, and when we do get this budget approved, we have those six that we know that really needs to (indiscernible), and then we will work with our Deans and our staff to determine how much -- which areas are needed urgently and what can be done this coming fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Chair. I just have one more under the Fusion Cloud. The College's 2027-2028 capital estimates includes 940,000 in funding to, “migrate to the government's Oracle Fusion Cloud Enterprise Resource Planning System.” The

Department of Finance budgets for this project is significantly higher than what it was originally estimated. How confident are you that the budget amount will be adequate? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuliktana. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, there were lessons learned from the Fusion that was being done by the Government of Nunavut and which allowed for the College to look at those lessons learned and build (indiscernible) into it. So, I'm very confident that we will be able to do this. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Any other questions from members? Mr. Kablutsiak, go ahead.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair. The College's 2026-2027 capital estimates include 500,000 in minor capital funding. What as of today, how much of this funding has been spent? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kablutsiak. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. All of it has been spent. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Kablutsiak, go ahead.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair. What projects and/or vehicle acquisitions have been undertaken with this funding? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kablutsiak. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: It varies. I tried to look at the proper year in terms of exactly what equipment were done, but for the minor capital: all terrain vehicles, bus equipment, vans, outboard motors, snowmobiles; vehicles, both (indiscernible) and heavy equipment are listed as part of our inventory that we have purchased through our minor capital purchases. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair. The College's proposed 2027-2028 capital estimates include 500,000 in minor capital funding. What projects are planned for the upcoming 2027-2028 fiscal year? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kablutsiak. Minister Akeeagok, go ahead.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, I'm very pleased because I think this was one that was very new to me is in Clyde River, is that we are going to buy a snowblower for this for the Piqqusilirivvik. As we know, Clyde River has a lot of snow in the winter. So we are buying that.

There are also four snowmobile replacement with Piqqusilirivvik a passenger vehicle for Piqqusilirivvik, and one heavy equipment for Piqqusilirivvik, one cargo van for student services here in the Nunatta campus, two snowmobiles for Environmental Technology Program, two snowmobiles for the Nunavut Research Institute, and one Side by Side Track. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Kablutsiak, go ahead.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair. For Arviat's Nunavut Arctic College Headquarter's office, can you provide an update on any renovations that were done? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kablutsiak. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The most recent one would be the fuel tank replacement. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Kablutsiak, any more? Go ahead.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Chair. For Arviat Nunavut Arctic College Headquarter's office is aging. It's old. At first it was an office, then -- oh, it was an old health centre. When the new health centre was constructed, it became Nunavut Arctic College Headquarter's office.

The office, especially in the summertime, the ceiling drips, the roof drips because it's so old now. It's deteriorated and it's dripping over the offices. So therefore you need to consider that and let the department know, (interpretation ends) prioritize Arviat's headquarters for budgeting major renovations. Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kablutsiak. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we're aware of the old building and also we know about the complaints -- we know about the sealing dripping, but we are considering this, and we perhaps it's better to get a new building.

There are many buildings or infrastructure that we need to construct, and the Nunavut Arctic College is aware of what kind of -- including Arviat, there are quite a few communities that require renovations or replacements of these buildings.

So therefore the plans and verifications, we're now at the stage of drafting plans where we can request for additional funding. The funding we're requesting at this time from the House is not going to be sufficient enough to replace those buildings. So that's why my staff and the board, I have encouraged them how we can apply or find additional sources of funding.

And I know that the Arctic College is not a department; it's an agency. So therefore we have to look for additional funding. And that's part of -- for Arviat's Headquarter's office.

And I went to the building myself and I know that we need to renew it, so we need to include that in our plans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Questions from members? Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The College's 2026-2027 capital estimates included $300,000 in capital funding for the Information Technology. As of today, how much of this funding has been spent? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Akeeagok, go ahead.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Bear with me, Mr. Chair. I'm trying to type as fast as possible to see how much it is. Of that we have spent to date, the information that I have right in front of me, we do have a $295,000 invoice that we need to pay as part of this project.

Once we have full calculations, I'll be in a better position to answer exactly how much have we spent to date. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) What projects have been undertaken with this funding? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, we have some hardware and some software upgrades that we have done for computer systems. Also, this funding is going to help with the cabling our network switches, wireless access points, and our

transition to the CANARIE -- it's an acronym. It's CANARIE, Canada's National Research and Education Network Services. Those are the main components that we'll be using these funds for. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The College's proposed 2027-2028 capital estimates include $300,000 in capital funding for Information Technology. What projects are planned for the upcoming 2027-2028 fiscal year? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Our ongoing computers and the replacement of end-of-life lab computers at all Nunavut Arctic College locations. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On November 5, 2020, the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College tabled a preliminary report community learning centres by region in the Legislative Assembly. When will an updated report be tabled in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, when that assessment report is done, I do plan on providing that for the members. I don't know if tabling will be -- if that's going to be determined later, but there is an assessment report that we are working on. And our biggest emphasis is to help with that campaign, as I mentioned to the member's questions earlier, is there are a lot of deficiencies throughout some of our buildings, and some do need replacements.

So Nunavut Arctic College is getting a campaign ready which will have these documents with those assessments, and I'll be very happy to provide with my colleagues once that is complete. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Nunavut Arctic College's 2024-2025 Business Plan indicated that one of its priorities has been to, "develop a plan for community learning centres upgrades and replacements."

During the Legislative Assembly's sitting in November 29, 2024, the president of Nunavut Arctic stated during proceedings of the Committee of the Whole that the College, "has identified 10 community learning centres that we would like to see replaced." Which community learning centres have been identified? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Akeeagok, go ahead.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, if the members can be patient in terms of getting a list of which ones they are. This is part of the assessment that we're doing, that we're looking at, and the community learning centres are there, and a few years ago when there were the 10 community learning centres, if you look at our budgets in the last few years, we haven't invested enough of that.

And so what I want to do is take that information and update it and try and get third-party funding to see if we can enhance more than what we can.

Our government's funds are very limited and we understand that. And with the College's ability to be a bit more flexible than other departments, I've directed the College to take a look at and consider that, and I'm hoping that once that assessment report is done, I'll be very happy to share with my colleagues that will show what the state of the buildings are for our College. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Qammaniq.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the explanation. (interpretation ends) What is the estimated cost to replace all 10 community learning centres? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Mr. Akeeagok, go ahead.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, I ask for patience from the members that we will get that estimated cost which will be part of that assessment. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Qammaniq, any more? Go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies, I'm making you write a lot. (interpretation ends) During the Legislative Assembly's sitting of March 5, 2024, the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College stated that, "Currently the mine training centre is the focus to build phase 2 of the trade school in Rankin Inlet, and the College continues to work with the Department of Community and

Government Services for this important mine training centre that will be development for the coming years."

As of today, what is the status of this work? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, since then the department's name has changed, so we are working very closely with the Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut on this particular project. It is on the planning side and so planning is continuing, and the most recent one is that we have visited the site and that's been done. And so we'll be getting the scopes and looking at other factors when this project is progressing. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. Mr. Qammaniq.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On February 12, 2026, the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure sent correspondence to all members of the Legislative Assembly which indicated that "Inuit language and culture building," for the Nunavut Arctic College was being, "proposed for approval into the planning stage for the 2026-2027 fiscal year." (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, I was so happy when that letter went out. And I thank my Minister colleague for sending that out.

It is a recognition that the current building that we are on is way past its lifecycle and it desperately needs to get a new building. And through that, through those, pre-planning will help identify the cost and locations and the scope.

So I'm really excited, and I will work very closely with my colleague to ensure that this goes from pre-planning to having something actual in place. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Akeeagok. I have no more names on my list. Do members agree with the Nunavut Arctic College total capital expenditures of $4,240,000?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Brief closing comments, Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you to my colleagues, a big thank you for all the good questions.

Our plan is small, but we'll take good care of it, and we'll be able to do all the things that we set out to do.

I would like to thank all of our officials and our staff and all those that work without being seen by the public. I'm very appreciative of them.

And we want to make sure our students are in a good classroom. So thank you very much for approving our request. I don't have much more to add, Mr. Chairman. I just want to say thank you for approving it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials. We will now take a brief recess to prepare for the Department of Culture and Heritage. I would ask members to remain in their seats. *Qujannamiik*.

>> Committee Adjourns at 16:16; Resumes at 16:17.

Chairman: I would like to ask Minister Tattuinee, do you have officials you would like to appear before the Committee?

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Yes, Mr. Chair. I would like to invite Deputy Minister Sandy Kownak and Director of Corporate Services Christopher Lang. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Does the Committee agree to let the Minister's officials appear before you?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort them in. Minister Tattuinee, as you've already introduced your officials, please proceed with your Opening Comments.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee): *Qujannamiik Itsivautaq*, and members of the Committee of the Whole. I am pleased to have this opportunity to present the Department of Culture and Heritage's 2027-2028 Capital Estimates.

The department is proposing $1,500,000 for it's capital estimates which is allocated between the Heritage Facilities and the Public Library Facilities Programs in the amounts

of $1,000,000 and $500,000 respectively. This funding is administered through application-based grants and contributions programs.

I'd like to highlight to the committee that the capital estimates being requested for the fiscal year 2027-2028 is similar to the 2026-2027 submission.

Both programs are distributed through the department's Grants and Contributions Policy to non-profit organizations and municipal corporations. The programs are scaled to support improvement to existing facilities or to help leverage other funding for new facilities.

Itsivautaq, I will be pleased to respond to any questions that members of this important committee may have during or at the end of this presentation.

Qujannamiik, Quanaqqutin, *Merci* and, thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee have Opening Comments? Please proceed, Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter: Thank you, Chair. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness concerning its review of the 2027-2028 Capital Estimates of the Department of Culture and Heritage.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for the 2027-2028 fiscal year is $1.5 million. This is for its ongoing Heritage Facilities funding and Public Libraries Facilities funding. The amount requested by the department remains unchanged from its 2026-2027 capital budget.

Members note that the department has allocated $1.0 million for its Heritage Facilities Grants and Contribution funding program. The department's capital contribution program is allocated to non-profit community-based organizations and municipal corporations for the development or renovation of heritage facilities and relevant associated equipment. Members notes that the department's previously approved 2025-2026 capital estimates indicated that a total of 44 community entities have received funding through these agreements since the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Members note that the 2027-2028 capital estimates did not include updated information on how many entities received funding from the department. Members encourage the department to continue to include the total number of entities that received funding from the department's grants and contribution funding programs.

Members also note that the department has allocated $500,000 for its Public Library Facilities Grants and Contribution funding program. This funding is intended to assist in the modernization of existing public libraries. During the Minister's recent appearance,

Members raised the issue of a new Nunavut Heritage Centre. Members recognize that this a major project that is currently in the planning phase and look forward to receiving ongoing updates on the status of this important work.

Mr. Chair, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2027-2028 Capital Estimates of the Department of Culture and Heritage. Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Porter. Do members have any general questions before we proceeded to detailed questions? Seeing none. We'll now proceed to a page-by-page review of the Capital Estimates starting on page F-3.

And we'll now review the Department of Culture and Heritage Directorate Branch. Do members have any questions? Go ahead, Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Chair. In June of 2026, the Legislative Assembly approved $150,000 in capital carryover funding to complete carpet replacements in your Kugluktuk office. As of today, what is the status of this project? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuliktana. Minister Tattuinee, go ahead.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Chair. The status of this, the Kugluktuk Replacement Carpet Project, is going through the RFP process. The department has had trouble obtaining a contractor at the community level to be able to conduct this work. So it's still in process. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Mr. Kuliktana, go ahead.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Chair. Your department's approved 2025-2026 capital project substantiation sheet indicated that four "facilities received a combined total of $700,000 in capital contribution funding during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. How many facilities received funding during 2025-2026 fiscal year and in what amounts? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuliktana. Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair. With the Chair's consent, I would like to have Christopher Lang answer that question.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Go ahead.

Mr. Lang: Thank you, Mr. Chair, for the question. I'm just going to go to tab 'D'. So for the 2026-2027, the department awarded under the Heritage Facilities three or more awards to the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation in the amount of $200,000. And for the

Hamlet of Igloolik, we awarded $178,000. And for the Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre, we awarded $866, making a grand total for the Heritage Facilities of 386,000. And for the public library, we awarded 25,000 for the Hamlet of Pond Inlet for minor capital repairs.

So the total that was awarded was $431,000 from the grants and contributions program.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuliktana, any more? Go ahead.

Mr. Kuliktana: To date, what proposals have been submitted to your department for Heritage Facilities funding during the current 2026-2027 fiscal year? Thank you, Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuliktana. Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: If I may, Mr. Chair, the last question was for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The information that was shared by Mr. Lang was for this fiscal year where Inuit Broadcasting Corporation received 200,000, the Hamlet of Igloolik received 178,200, Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre received $8,669.99, for a total of $386,869.99.

In terms of the library funding, currently the Hamlet of Pond Inlet has received $45,000 for minor capital expenditures for the library. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Any other members with questions? I'll ask a question.

For your Heritage Facility's funding for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, which proposals have been approved and which have not been approved? Thank you, and go ahead, Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Mr. Chair, if I may ask Mr. Lang to respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Go ahead, Mr. Lang.

Mr. Lang: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sorry, I'm trying to follow the procedures here. So for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, we received a total of about six proposals, which includes four of them which are included in this package under the awarded proposals.

Plus we got two orders from other organizations, which have not been named here, which were not approved. And those proposals do not align with the focus of Heritage Facilities, so those were not included. So in total there was six proposals.

We have not received as much interest in our capital as we would have wanted. So the department is currently doing a second follow-up with the capital funding. We are

intending to have more community contact so we can have more efficiency to go in to assess and be able to fully use our capital funding.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lang. My next question. With those proposals you mentioned, what amounts have been approved for those? Thank you, and go ahead, Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As mentioned earlier, the projects that have been approved, there have been four of them in total; three of them under the Heritage Facility's Contributions. Again, they were for the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation for $200,000 for replacement of video and equipment for their programming.

The Hamlet of Igloolik was for radio station renovations in the amount of $178,200. And for Iqaluit, the Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre to allow them to purchase upgraded printing equipment to share information necessary to the public for the amount of $8,669.99, for a total of $386,869. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Any other questions from members? I'll ask another while members are checking their sheets.

In March of 2022, the Minister of Community and Government Services provided all members of the Legislative Assembly with a list of projects entering the planning stage for the 2022-20823 fiscal year. This list indicated that a new Nunavut Heritage Centre is, "going into the planning envelope" for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. What is the status of this work? Go ahead, Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you for that question. Over the past seven fiscal years, the Department of Culture and Heritage has provided the Inuit Heritage Trust with approximately $1.47 million in grants and contributions funding. Out of that funding, $818,450 went towards the planning and development for the proposed Nunavut Heritage Centre. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Any questions from members? Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) How does your department inform municipalities and societies about this funding opportunity? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the member for the question. We usually do a callout to all of the communities indicating that the fund is available. And as Mr. Lang indicated earlier, because not only a very few numbers of organizations have requested these funds, we are in the process of doing another callout indicating that there is funding available that can be used by communities for heritage centres and public libraries. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman (interpretation ends) How many public libraries received funding during the 2025-2026 fiscal year? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If I may have Mr. Lang answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Mr. Lang, go ahead.

Mr. Lang: Thank you, Mr. Chair, for that question. In this particular presentation, we don't have the detailed breakdown for the different community libraries that received funding. I know we have seven communities that received funding on the public library funding stream. We would be willing to go back and just provide you details of that information, because that was related to last year.

On this package we have the information that is available for what we actually give out for 2026-2027 in anticipation. But I know that there's a (indiscernible) organization.

Going off my memory, I would say Baker Lake did receive funding. The community of Clyde River did receive funding. Pond Inlet did receive funding with the public library, but I don't have the specific details to lay them out right now.

We could refer to the Assembly with that information in a subsequent (indiscernible) to specially say what each community got.

Chairman: Thank you for that. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) What specific work was competing with the funding that the libraries received? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the member for the question. For this fiscal year, Pond Inlet received an amount of $45,000 for replacement to replace furniture and mobile shelving to be used by the facility. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) To date what proposals have been submitted to your department for public libraries' facilities funding during the current 2026-2027 fiscal year? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Tattuinee.

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This funding is proposal-based from proposals received from the libraries that we have funded in the past. As Mr. Lang indicated, we funded seven. We've provided capital funding for seven libraries.

This year so far only the library located in Pond Inlet has received $45,000. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Which proposals have been approved and which have been approved? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. Minister Tattuinee, from what I understand on your last request, it was just the one application received so far for that amount of $45,000; that's correct? Okay, thank you.

Any other questions from members? Mr. Qammaniq, go ahead.

Mr. Qammaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair (interpretation ends) What amounts -- this might have been answered too. What amounts have been approved? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qammaniq. And that amount was $45,000. Any other questions from members? I don't have any other names on my list. Do members agree with the Department of Culture and Heritage total capital expenditures of $1,500,000?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree we have concluded with the Department of Culture and Heritage?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Any brief closing comments, Minister Tattuinee?

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would like to thank the Committee for their time, and I would like to especially thank all the staff that work for Culture and Heritage that stand behind the work that is done by the department.

As a department, we will be putting another callout for proposals, as we currently have a remaining balance over $1 million at this time.

I have suggested to the department that maybe we get a hold of whatever local radio stations and government liaison officers and community liaison officers and even constituency assistants to make the community aware of these programs, so that more interest and more proposals would be submitted on a regular basis.

I've also asked the department if it's possible for us to look into having the different organizations that have received funding to provide a little bit of planning so that we could start looking at entering possible multi-year agreements, along with those seven communities that have already submitted proposals and received funding. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

>>*Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Tattuinee. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials. And we'll now take a 10-minute break and get ready for the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

>>*Committee recesses at 16:42 and reconvenes at 16:53.*

Chairman: Thank you for returning, members. I would like to ask Mr. Speaker, do you have officials you would like to appear before the Committee?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair, if you consent. Does the Committee agree to let the Minister's officials appear before you?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort them in. And for the record, Mr. Speaker, please introduce your officials and proceed with your Opening Comments.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chair, colleagues, Nunavummiut and those listening in. Today I am pleased to appear before you and members today to present the proposed 2027-2028 Capital Estimates of the Legislative Assembly.

To my right, Stephen Innuksuk, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly; and to my left, Tanya Winmill Director of Operations and Finances.

Mr. Chair, please note the proposed 2027-2028 Capital Budget of $250,000. The capital proposed have not increased to date. This year, our first priority included furnace repair and building insulation upgrade and furniture and computer hardware, wiring and so forth that will need changing.

Mr. Chair, these are my Opening Comments. If there are questions, we'll try and respond to your questions. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are there any general comments? I'm seeing none. We'll now proceed to a page-by-page review of the Capital Estimates starting on page A-3, and we'll now review the Office of the Legislative Assembly, Assembly Operations Branch. Do members have any questions? Seeing none.

Do members agree with the Office of the Legislative Assembly total capital expenditures of $250,000?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree we have concluded with the Office of the Legislative Assembly?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Brief closing comments. Mr. Speaker?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and our staff at the Legislative Assembly, we thank them. And Mr. Chair, we serve you at the Assembly. The MLAs and our procedures and so forth that they carry through steadily and we propose every year, and I'm grateful to you all that you can now approve our proposal. Thank you.

>>Applause

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please escort the officials. Members, please remain in your seats and go to Bill 10 in your legislation binder. Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028*, clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3, agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to the schedule on page 2, Schedule amounts appropriated for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2028, vote 2 capital, total capital appropriation $304,220,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6, Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 10 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are we in agreement that Bill 10 is ready for third reading on the *Orders of the Day*?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Does the Committee agree we have concluded our consideration of Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028*?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. What is the wish of the Committee, Mr. Taqtu?

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Chair. I move a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Taqtu. We have a motion on the floor to report progress, and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

>>Committee concludes 17:00; House re-convenes at 17:01.

Speaker (interpretation): Report of Committee of the Whole, Mr. Pedersen.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your Committee has been considering Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028*, and I would like to report that Bill 10 is ready for third reading.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. There's a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Kuliktana. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. Item 21, Third Reading of Bills, Minister of Finance, Mr. Main.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 10 - Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027 202 – Third Reading

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, that Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028* be read for the third time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. To the motion, all those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 10 has been read for the third time. It's ready for assent. Item 22, *Orders of the Day*.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Clerk: *Qujannamiik*. Just a reminder, there's a meeting of full caucus at the conclusion of the leadership forum tomorrow morning in the Nanuq boardroom.

Orders of the Day for Thursday, November 5 at 1:30:

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
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Before we conclude, I wish to remind members and Nunavummiut viewers at home or at work that the Nunavut Leadership Forum will convene tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock a.m. eastern time to select a new member of the Executive Council. The proceedings will be televised, live streamed, and I encourage all Nunavummiut to join us tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2026. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House concluded at 17:05*